

# Professional integration within health care pharmacies



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## Professional Integration Within Health Care Pharmacies: A Critical Review

The professional integration of care represents a potential solution to the dysfunctional aspects of health care systems. Briefly, professional integration involves such an element as organizing sustainable consistency, over time, between a system of values, an organizational structure and a clinical system so as to create a space in which stakeholders (both individuals and organizations concerned) find it meaningful and beneficial to coordinate their actions within a specific context. The issue of professional integration within health care organizations, as well as both the successes and downfalls of this professional integration are of the utmost importance and significance in this forum, and in order to gain a clearer and more knowledgeable understanding on this subject matter, all relevant prospects and topics included in this subject must be thoroughly discussed. The aim of this paper is to do this, in regards to one health care organization in particular - The HMO Research Network. This is what will be dissertated in the following.

Integrated care systems have unique advantages for conducting research, this system in particular is a perfect example of this representation. The HMO Research Network (HMORN) includes research centers associated with 13 large integrated care systems whose research focuses primarily on improving health and health care delivery using the extraordinary platform which is provided by these health systems. " HMORN research centers have access to large, defined populations, comprehensive medical information, extensive computerized data systems and to medical care delivery systems that offer extraordinary research opportunities." (Vogt, Lafata, Tolsma, & Greene, 2004).

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Integrated care health maintenance organizations (HMOs) provide the absolute optimal mix of population base, electronic medical and financial databases, and longitudinal observation for much health research. As well onto this, they are especially well situated for such things as research addressing issues such as the costs and effectiveness of prevention and treatment practices, the organization of care, secular trends in diseases, as well as relative priorities on how to apportion scarce resources. It was in 1961 that Kaiser Permanente (KP) Northern California formed the Division of Research (DOR), the first of the integrated care research centers. The KP Northwest Center for Health Research in Portland, OR, followed three years later; both centers are professionally autonomous health research centers in the public domain that use the integrated care system as a laboratory for research that improves care. These two research centers grew steadily over the years, competing successfully with universities for federal research grants and developing lines of research that influenced care at the national level, and by the 1970s, their research had already led to changes in federal regulations relating to Medicaid coverage.

From this review, we can see that there is much success possible from the act of professional integration, and that the previously discussed forum - The HMO Research Network - is a prime example of just this. The success this company experienced from professional integration is nothing less than the actual core of its prime an stability, which is an obviously factor of proof in how significant professional integration can be.

#### Works Cited

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