

What is the difference between “Care Conferencing/Patient Rounds” vs. “Coordinated Care Planning”?

We know that providers have been conferencing/meeting to discuss patient/client care for many years. We hope that the following table assists in highlighting what is new or different with the Health Links approach to Coordinated Care Planning:

Type of Conferencing	Previous Approach to Care Conferencing/Patient Rounds	Health Links Approach to Coordinated Care Planning*
Multiple Providers contribute to plan/conference	YES Typically only healthcare providers	YES Typically, involves more people, including those beyond the healthcare sector
Patient/Client consents to Process	NO Not required as long as discussion includes only providers considered within ‘circle of care’	YES Patient/client involvement required to ensure that approach is patient-centred, considers the ‘whole person’, and includes people outside of the ‘circle of care’, as appropriate
Patient/Client is consulted as to who participates in the Process	NO Participation is typically dictated by the location in which the patient/client is interacting with the system (e.g. hospital, community partners) and current providers engaged	YES Patient/client input is required to ensure a ‘whole person’ approach to wellness and to ensure that the right people are involved to support his/her goals
Conference and Care Planning is driven by Patient/Client’s Goals	NO In the past, providers have conferenced in order to set a plan for the patient/client	YES Coordinated Care Planning is patient-centred and heavily relies on all partners understanding and supporting the patient/client goals and wishes in order to build a plan with him/her
Conference/Plan is documented in each Provider’s own format/system	YES Each provider typically documents his/her portion of the plan in his/her own system; the patient/client typically does not receive a copy	NO All Coordinated Care Plans are documented using the Provincial template; the Care Plan is shared with all partners, electronically or in hard copy, including the patient/client and non-healthcare partners
Patient/Client is present and actively participating at the conference	NO In the past, providers have conferenced in order to set a plan for the patient/client	YES Patient/client is typically an active participant at the conference; in rare cases, the patient/client may decide that s/he wishes to not be present at the conference

* The Health Links approach to Coordinated Care Planning embraces the strengths of all multidisciplinary team approaches to overall wellness. It considers the “whole person” – viewing the balance mentally, physically, emotionally, and spiritually.