

## Integrative Care



*This page only includes articles published in the last 5 years.*

A 2016 survey of nurse practitioners (NPs) and physician assistants (PAs) found conflicting results as to whether respondents viewed chiropractic as mainstream or alternative. Most participants reported having a lack of awareness of current scientific evidence for chiropractic but also indicated a positive interest in learning more about the profession. Participants were found to have substantial knowledge deficits in relation to chiropractic treatments and scope of practice.<sup>1</sup>

A 2016 study described a multidisciplinary survivorship care model for oncology patients. Each Patient Empowered Care (PEC) team includes a medical oncologist, naturopathic doctor, nurse care manager, and a nutritionist. Patient satisfaction and outcomes were found to improve by facilitating compliance with individualized lifestyle recommendations.<sup>2</sup>

The authors of a 2016 commentary conclude that there is currently no consensus as to how integrative care models should optimally be organized, implemented, replicated, assessed, and funded. The time may be right for prospective research in "best practices" across emerging models of IM care.<sup>3</sup>

Data from the 2012 National Health Interview Survey, Alternative Health Supplement, indicate that 41.2% of the LBP population used CAM in the past year, with higher use reported among those with limiting LBP. The most popular therapies used in the LBP population included herbal supplements, chiropractic manipulation, and massage; 58.1% of those who used CAM for their back pain perceived a great deal of benefit.<sup>4</sup>

A 2016 qualitative study examined the policy implications of politically defining complementary and alternative medicine (CAM) professions by their treatment modalities rather than by their full professional scope.<sup>5</sup>

A 2016 commentary described the chiropractic program in Switzerland. The MChiroMed program is a unique chiropractic curriculum that integrates medical and chiropractic education within a spiral curriculum at a Swiss university medical school. It is hoped that this curriculum model will be adopted by other countries and jurisdictions seeking to enhance the role of chiropractic in health care.<sup>6</sup>

A 2015 paper describes a set of competencies that will be taught to practitioners in a 45-hour online curriculum produced by the National Center for Integrative Primary Healthcare, to be used in primary care training programs.<sup>7</sup>

A 2016 systematic review states that Doctors of Chiropractic successfully collaborate with other providers in veteran and military health care settings to manage patients with complex health care needs.<sup>8</sup>

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