

Volume 14, 01 October 2014

Publisher: Igitur publishing

URL: <http://www.ijic.org>

Cite this as: Int J Integr Care 2014; Annual Conf Suppl; [URN:NBN:NL:UI:10-1-116193](https://nbn-resolving.org/urn:nbn:nl:ui-10-1-116193)

Copyright: 

---

Conference Abstract

## **Integrating care in Singapore – The role of an enabling agency**

*Dr. Alvin Koh, MBBS, MPH, Manager, Agency for Integrated Care, Singapore*

*Dr. Jason Yap, Chief Knowledge Officer, Agency for Integrated Care, Singapore*

Correspondence to: **Dr. Alvin Koh**, MBBS, MPH, Manager, Agency for Integrated Care, Phone: +65 66321170, E-mail: [alvin.koh@aic.sg](mailto:alvin.koh@aic.sg)

---

### **Abstract**

**Introduction:** Efforts at integration usually focus on either top down policies implemented over a specific region or the local interventional initiatives. This paper discusses how an intermediate enabling agency can support care integration at multiple levels.

**Aims:** This paper describes the advantage derived from deploying an intermediate enabling agency to support the integration of care within regions as well as across horizontal sectors.

**Results:** The Agency for Integrated Care was (AIC) formed in 2009 as an independent entity at “arms length” away from both policy making and service provision, to catalyse and support regional and sectoral efforts in the integration of care delivery. AIC has helped foster integration at multiple levels, including the systemic, organizational, professional, clinical, normative and functional fronts, and nurtured the implementation of new care delivery models. This integration has occurred across traditional boundaries such as healthcare, social care and community mental health services, as well as, to varying degrees, across public, private and voluntary welfare sectors. Despite the rapidly changing environment, AIC has supported rapid adoption of horizontal and vertical care integration and capacity and capability building initiatives.

**Conclusions:** In its four years of existence, AIC was able to successfully accelerate and support efforts at care integration in Singapore. Much continuing effort is required to maintain the momentum in a very dynamic health and social care ecosystem.

### **Keywords**

health and social care integration, integrating long-term care; innovative approaches; theory and practice, inter-organizational management, Singapore, enabling

---

### **Powerpoint presentation:**

<http://www.integratedcarefoundation.org/content/making-transition-towards-integrated-care-driving-change>