

Strengthening Prevention in Integrated Care Systems Framework

Alignment with The Ottawa Charter for Health Promotion

The Ottawa Charter is a foundational charter for public health worldwide, providing a comprehensive framework for action to address the social, environmental and systemic determinants of health. It was also key in extending the scope of health promotion beyond the health sector itself to include broader policy, community empowerment, supportive environments, and the reorientation of health services. While the original charter included five domains, some commentators have added future planning to embed consideration of emerging health issues.

The Strengthening Prevention in Integrated Care Systems (SPICS) framework was developed by Health and Wellbeing Queensland (HWQ). It is aimed at leaders of organisations shaping the health and wellbeing of Queensland communities, both within and beyond the health sector, and is a framework for a coordinated, cross-sector approach to drive a stronger and more connected approach across the prevention spectrum. This includes addressing the wider determinants of health and investing in primary prevention to reduce the long-term impact of chronic disease, to improving personalised care in secondary and tertiary prevention to reduce healthcare utilisation in the short term.

This mapping exercise highlights overlaps between the key principles of both charters, and this alignment is reassuring that SPICS has comprehensively addressed the full scope of health promotion. It is noteworthy that the SPICS domains do not align one-to-one with the Ottawa Charter but rather map across multiple action areas. SPICS also features a stronger focus on governance and on various aspects of resourcing, including financial and human resources, as well as intelligence.

This is most likely as SPICS is an applied health promotion plan aimed at stakeholders' leadership teams. It is, therefore, necessarily framed toward implementation, but also reflects broader shifts in the landscape of governance for health since the adoption of the Ottawa Charter in the late 1980s. Health policy has been increasingly recognised as multisectoral, and technology brings greater potential for integration, but attention to navigate partnerships and relationships is necessary. There has been an exponential increase in access to information, but infrastructure is needed to process and interpret it. Access to information has also accelerated the media cycle, which is well recognised to have compressed political horizons and created challenges to securing sustained resourcing, particularly for initiatives oriented toward long-

term outcomes such as chronic disease prevention. While not exhaustive, these examples highlight some of the contemporary challenges to which SPICS is responding, while remaining rooted in the foundational principles of the Ottawa Charter.

