

**“Enhancing Interprofessional
Collaboration and Learning for
Strengthening Primary Health Care”**

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Title	STRENGTHENING PRIMARY CARE FOR PEOPLE WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY THROUGH ELEVATING THE ROLE OF NURSES AND NURSE PRACTITIONERS IN AN INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM
Type	Oral Presentation <i>What can we learn from your Primary Health Care Practice and Experiences?</i>
1st Author	TINE HANSEN-TURTON
Co-Authors	Elizabeth Hayden, Holly Cunningham, Stephen Kolesk
Country	UNITED STATES
Abstract N ^o	TUFH584
Content	Woods Services has developed an innovative integrated primary care model to improve access to care and quality of care for people with intellectual disability, autism and behavioral and medical complexities, who experience significant health disparities. The model relies heavily on the Patient-Centered Medical Home approach, and an elevated role for nursing, which focuses on listening, prevention, patient education, chronic disease management and care coordination. This population is routinely left out of public health planning and is not well-defined in health care, census or population data systems, which impedes the ability to improve services. Identifying new practices and models to better meet the needs of this complex population has been left to intellectual disability service providers, who typically do not provide primary care themselves, but rather must rely on community primary care providers. These providers, in turn, are generally not well equipped to manage the complex needs of people with intellectual disability or autism, given the frequency of mobility challenges requiring accommodations in office layout, exam rooms and equipment, communication barriers or mental and behavioral health issues, paired with medical conditions which demand more than a 15-minute office visit. Given the low reimbursement in the U.S. by Medicaid, the primary insurer for the population, community health care providers simply cannot afford and are unwilling to treat this population. Participants will learn about the Woods’ model of integrated primary care for special populations, the role of nursing in the model, and the results and outcomes to date.