GRAND ROUNDS
Improving Chronic Illness Care

Care for chronic non-communicable diseases (CNCDs) such as cardiovascular disease, diabetes, cancer, and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease is a global problem. Research demonstrates that the vast majority of people with CNCDs do not receive appropriate care. Throughout its technical collaboration, the Pan American Health Organization provides advice to the Americas on the implementation of quality care for CNCD and promotes the use of the Chronic Care Model (CCM) for the integrated management of non-communicable diseases within the context of primary health care.

The CCM provides a framework for health care program managers, policy-makers, and stakeholders to organize high-quality services for people with CNCDs or CNCD risk factors. Key issues for the integrated management of CNCD at the policy level include the financial and legislative aspects of care and human resource development. PAHO recommends the implementation of the Chronic Care Model in its entirety since its components have synergistic effects, where the whole is greater than the sum of the parts. Policy reforms and universal access to care are critical elements leading to better outcomes and reducing disparities in chronic disease care.

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University of Miami
September 25, 2013
11:45 am – 12:45pm
Clinical Research Building rm. 989
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