

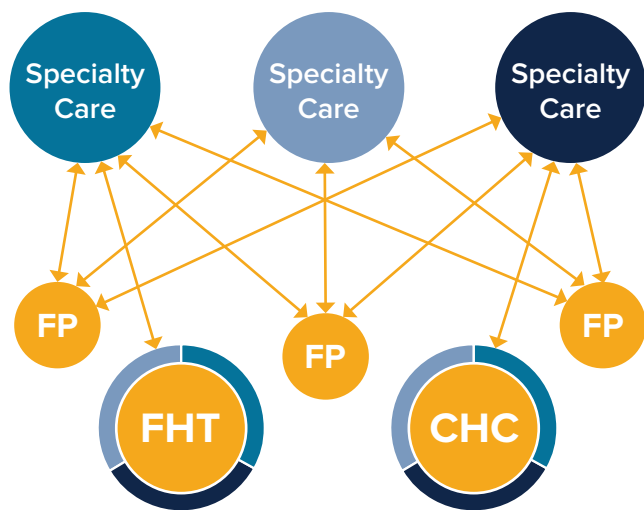
Integrated Health Systems:

A model long-supported by the OMA that can benefit patients, physicians and the system

2015

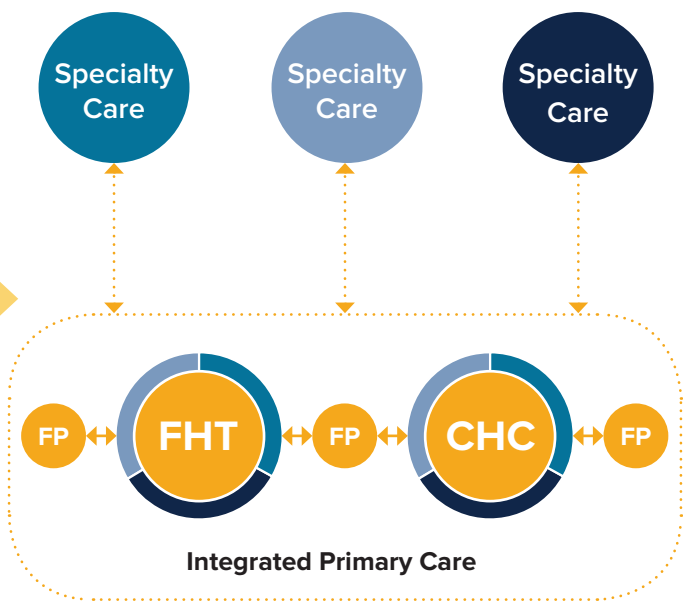
In **2015**, the OMA published a policy paper stating:
Horizontal integration between primary care will lead to better delivery of care for complex patients

Traditionally, primary care refers complex patients to multiple independent providers for access to specialty care



Traditional Organization of Primary Care
 FP = Family Physician

Integrated primary care provides complex patients with access to coordinated, collaborative interdisciplinary care offered in larger primary care organizations



Integrated Primary Care

Benefits include:

- ✓ Improved access to care
- ✓ More effective transitions in care
- ✓ Reduced downstream costs (e.g., diagnostic, drug, hospital services)

Enablers needed:

- Physician leadership
- Partnered approach between healthcare providers and Ministry
- Supportive and flexible policy environment
- Accountable and sustained interdisciplinary relationships
- Collaborative planning of new resources at the FHT and CHC level

Reference:

Ontario Medical Association. An Integrated Health Network Approach to Address Priority Populations in Family Practice in Ontario [Internet]. Toronto, ON: Ontario Medical Association; 2015 June. 8p. Available from:

<https://www.oma.org/wp-content/uploads/private/integratedhealthnetworkpolicypaper2015-06-25-1.pdf>