

# MLTs & Interprofessional Collaboration (IPC)

## CMLTO 2022 IPC Survey Snapshot

A group of 1000 randomly selected Practising MLTs were surveyed to understand how IPC in MLT practice has evolved over time including insights into COVID-19's impact. The survey's response rate was 39.8%.



### IPC definition:

"...practice and education where individuals from two or more professional backgrounds meet, interact, learn together, and practice with the client at the center of care."

(Prentice, Engel, Taplay & Stobbe, 2015)

## General IPC Trends

### Quick Facts:

- 44%** of MLTs have a personal interest in IPC
- 58%** of MLTs engage in IPC as part of their practice
- 66%** of MLTs would like more opportunities for IPC at their employment setting

### Did years of CMLTO registration change how MLTs engage in IPC?

#### 0-5 years

- 58%** Need more resources to support IPC use
- 66%** IPC is part of their current MLT practice

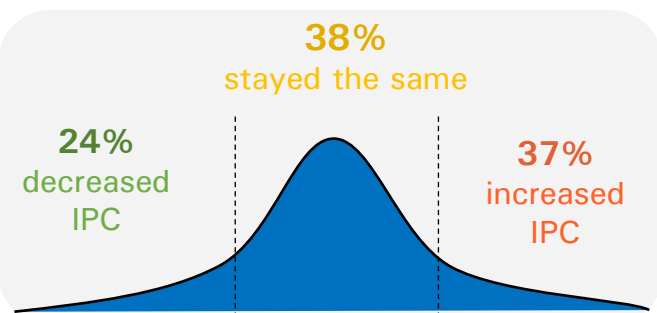
#### > 20 years

- 35%**
- 51%**

**Veteran MLTs rely on their IPC experience** when working in teams and many believed its part of their duties. **New MLTs can easily identify IPC** and may need guidance to support them in this practice.

## COVID-19 IPC Trends

COVID-19 affected each MLT's practice differently which led to **varying effects** on how often MLT's were involved in IPC.



### Common IPC challenges caused by COVID-19 were:

- Lack of time
- Cancelled in-person learnings and events
- Staffing shortages
- Social distancing protocols

Where IPC increased, **MLTs worked collaboratively with healthcare professionals** who were internal and external to the laboratory sector. MLTs **frequently engaged** in IPC with:

- Assistants/Technicians
- Other MLTs
- Physicians
- Occupational Health & Safety Staff
- Infection Control Representatives



## CMLTO IPC resources

MLTs interested in learning more about IPC can access the following resources:

[Collaboration Guidelines for MLTs](#)

[IPC Case Studies](#)

[Professional Practice Learning Program](#)

[IPC Webpage](#)