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Conference Abstract

## Enhancing integrated care: the case for subsidiarity

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### Abstract:

**Introduction:** Integrated care is a complex endeavour. It must be encouraged by government policies in a way that preserves and strengthens local actors' capacity and willingness to innovate and adapt the prescriptions to their context.

**Aims:** To discuss the relevance of subsidiarity as a governance principle apt to reconcile top down orientations and bottom up innovations.

**Results:** Subsidiarity means that a central authority should perform only those tasks which cannot be performed effectively at a more immediate or local level. In Quebec, this governance principle was proposed in 1996 by the Deschênes report [1], alongside with results-based management and accountability. However, up to now the priority has been given to the last two principles. In many ways, this has been detrimental to integrated care.

**Conclusions:** Governments should send clear and strong signals of their commitment to integrated care. This implies that they provide local actors with sufficient room for manoeuvre to implement this highly shared priority.

### Keywords

subsidiarity, integrated care, quebec, Canada

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### References

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