

Review of: "[Commentary] Potential Mechanisms of Continuity of Care and Future Research"

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Thank you for the opportunity to review this paper that focuses on the importance of continuity of care in primary healthcare, which in turn may be beneficial for enhanced population health, health equity, meeting the patient's needs, and overall efficiency improvement of healthcare systems. The author addresses important underlying mechanisms of continuity of care. I believe that continuity of care goes further than the focus of coordination within primary care, but rather encompasses cross-sectoral collaboration, including not only curative care, but also social care provision. Adding an aspect of a cross-sectoral coordinator, particularly in complex healthcare systems where patients navigate across multiple sectors, could be of added value to this commentary. The author describes the need for coherence and no interruption in care. Exploring the role of a cross-sectoral coordinator to direct communication and coordination in more detail might be an interesting perspective to add to this commentary. Additionally, the concept of trust and mutual trust should be considered as important underlying mechanisms for the relationship. This commentary's discussion on the patient-provider relationship could be enriched by considering the role of communication and interpersonal skills. Effective communication is a pivotal aspect for creating trust.

For future research directions, the author might consider a realist evaluation approach, which could provide valuable insights into the Context-Mechanism-Outcome configuration.