



## **Research and Theory Papers**

### **Purpose**

Research papers should report the results of original research, be it obtained by qualitative, quantitative or mixed methods approaches. Theory papers apply existing theoretical concepts or models to the integrated care field (e.g. systems theories, complexity theory), or create and develop new theoretical foundations for the field.

### **Focus**

The focus of research papers is on establishing new or adding to existing evidence to provide a better understanding of integrated care and strengthen the evidence base. The focus of theory papers is on the theoretical construct and how it can support the understanding of integrated care.

### **Content**

RT papers should include -

- a clear description of the background of the research or theoretical deliberation (why is it relevant?)
- a clear and succinct description of the research methodologies or theories used (and why they were selected)
- a focussed presentation on the most important findings of the research or of the new/adapted theoretical framework developed, using figures and tables
- a discussion of the results/findings in the context of the international evidence, including possible transferability of approach and results
- a n explanation of possible contextual prerequisites or limitations (i.e. concerning data, regulations, applicability) to apply research methods or theory
- a suggestion on application (or potential application) in “real world” settings and what further studies are needed to validate outcomes or evaluate results.
- Key learnings and relevance for integrated care

### **Suggested structure**

Abstract (Introduction/Methods/Results/Discussion/Conclusion) (200 words)

Key words (3-6 words)

Introduction, comprising background and problem statement

Research Methods or Theory building/adapting

Results

Discussion

Conclusion

Acknowledgements (if any)

References

**Length**

Up to 5,000 words (excluding abstract and key words)