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The governance of integrated health and social care in England since 2010: great expectations not met once again?

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Highlights

- Integrating health and social care remains a problematic area for health policy
- Evidence continues to be weak, partly due to conflicting definitions
- England offers a useful case-study of the governance of integrated care
- This article examines transparency, accountability, participation, integrity and capability of governance
- The TAPIC framework explains how integrated care can contribute to better outcomes.

Abstract

Integrating health and social care has long been a goal of policy-makers and practitioners. Yet, this aim has remained elusive, partly due to conflicting definitions and a weak evidence base. As part of a special edition exploring the use of the TAPIC (transparency, accountability, participation, integrity and capability) framework in different national contexts and inter-agency settings, this article examines the governance of integrated care in England since 2010, focusing on the extent to which these five governance attributes are applicable to integrated care in England. The plethora of English policy initiatives on integrated care (such as the 'Better Care Fund', personal health budgets, and 'Sustainability and Transformation Plans') mostly shows signs of continuity over time although the barriers

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