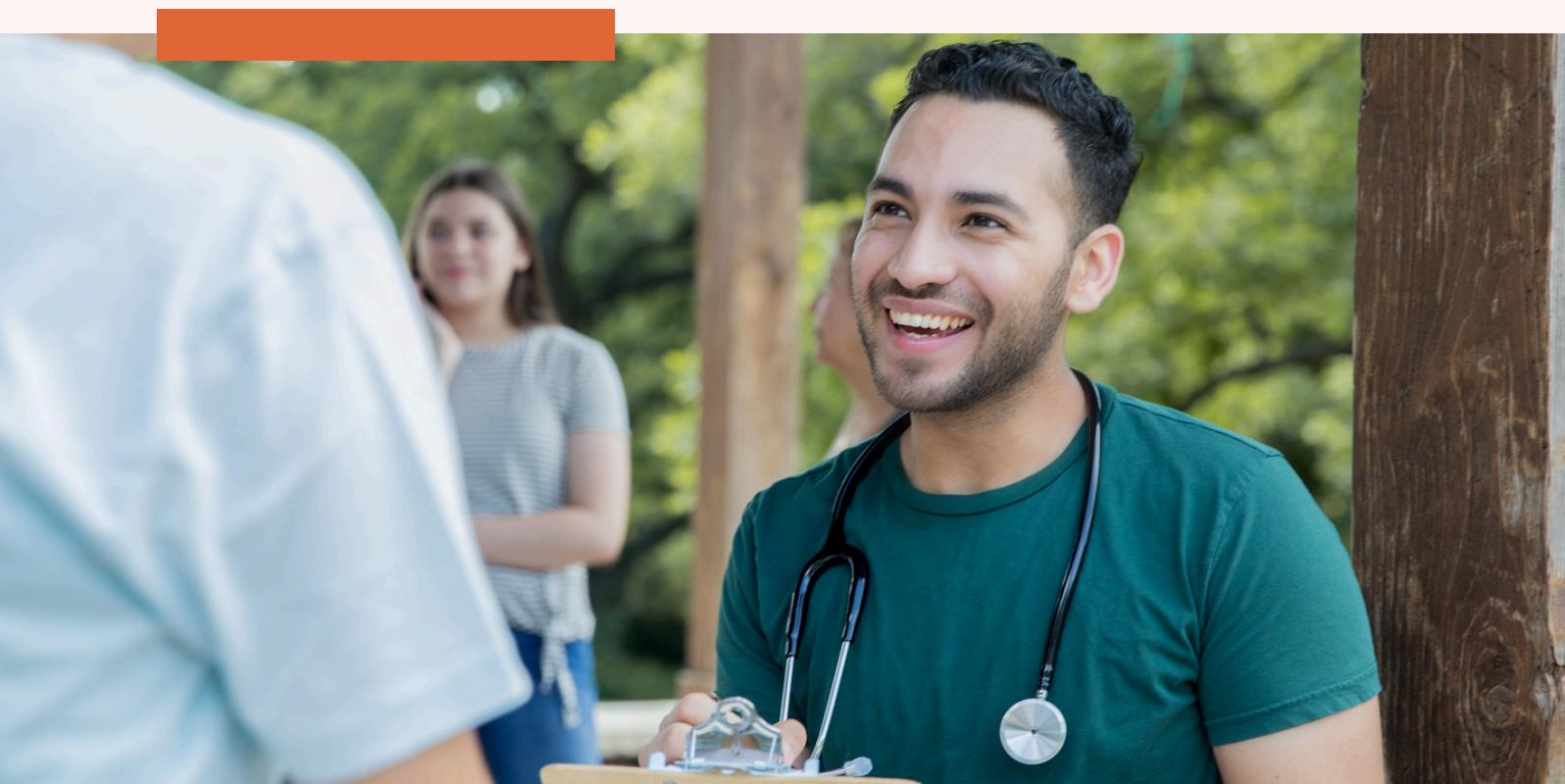


SHAPING THE CARE ECONOMY DEBATE: HOW PERSON-CENTRED FUNDAMENTAL CARE SHAPES QUALITY, SAFETY, AND EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICE SUCCESS

THE INTERNATIONAL LEARNING COLLABORATIVE (ILC) GENOA 2025 STATEMENT - SUMMARY



ilccare.org



admin@ilccare.org

The International Learning Collaborative (ILC) is promoting a new way for health systems across the globe to shape the care economy debate by getting person-centred fundamental care right. This care is essential to human life, and foundational to safety, quality, and human dignity.

Bagnasco A[i], Weeks S[ii], Kitson A[iii], Aleo G[iv], Catania G[v], Zanini M[vi], Jangland E[vii], Poulsen I[viii], Sunde B[ix], Bianchi, M[x], Huisman-de Waal, G[xi], Sasso L[xii]

GETTING FUNDAMENTAL CARE RIGHT

Despite significant investment, supported by governments and healthcare industries globally, many of the most common safety and quality challenges across health and care systems have not been eradicated[1]. It is time to talk about the future of care and its economic importance[2].

The International Learning Collaborative (ILC) is promoting a new way for health systems across the globe to shape the care economy debate by getting person-centred fundamental care right. This care is essential to human life, and foundational to safety, quality, and human dignity. This sort of care is assumed to happen consistently and effectively within our systems – personal hygiene, eating, drinking, sleeping, resting, breathing properly, relaxing, moving around, talking, and feeling comfortable, being listened to and respected.

Not addressing a person's fundamental care needs in a consistent, evidence-based way exposes them to potential risks. While nurses undertake multiple risk assessments as part of their role, research also shows that when there are workforce shortages or other organisational factors in play, care such as ambulation, turning patients and mouthcare are missed.

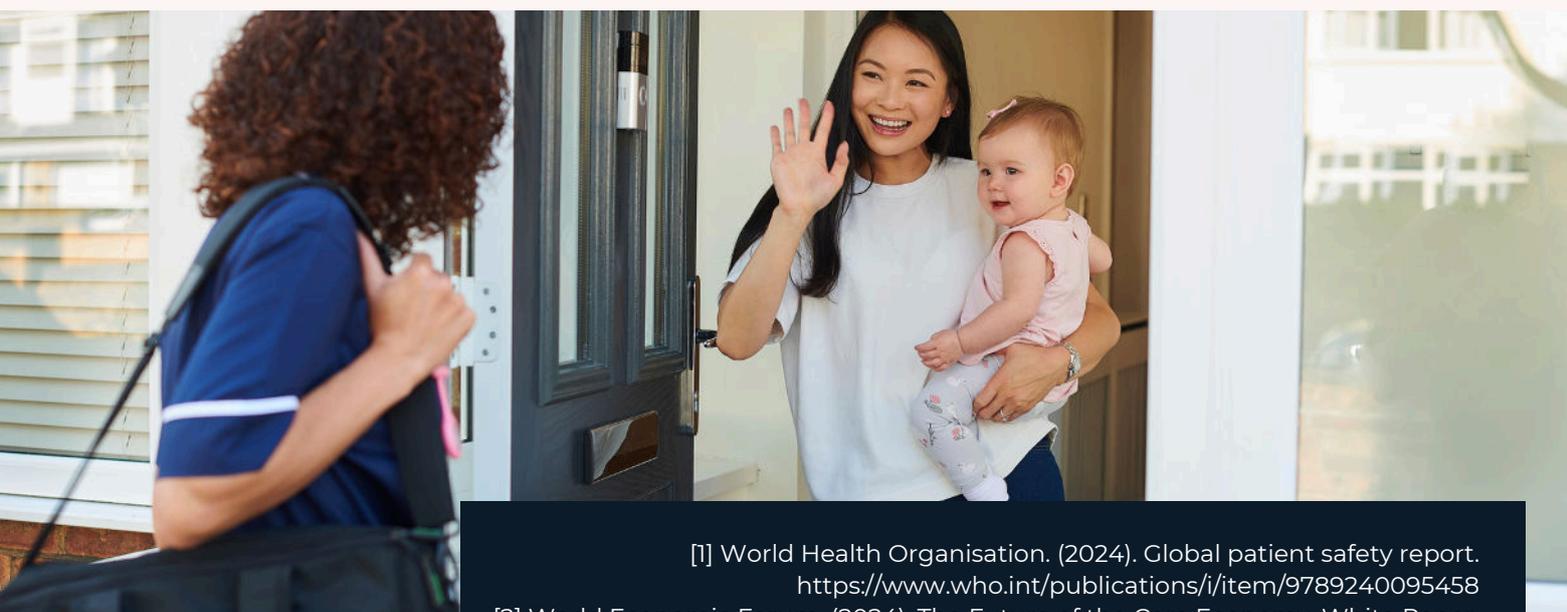


The ILC is a global organisation whose mission is to promote the effective implementation of person-centred fundamental care into health and care systems[3]. Acknowledging the foundational importance of getting fundamental care right, the ILC has worked with organisations, teams, and individuals to raise awareness and work together to embed more systematic approaches to person-centred fundamental care delivery. Participants at the 2025 ILC Conference in Genoa identified five action statements.

- **Shaping the Care Economy Debate**
- **Making Care Visible**
- **Measuring What Matters**
- **Redistributing and Reconnecting**
- **Advancing person-centred care systems**

The Genoa Conference action statements build on the previous ILC Position Statements[4] and provide a set of aspirational targets that can be used to start or continue important conversations with patients and colleagues. The ILC's five-year strategic plan also reflects these aspirations.

The ILC members are moving into a wider policy and political influencing area. They are building networks of stakeholders across leadership, practice, research, and education. This critical mass of influencers across leadership, practice, research and education roles and are advancing the care economy debate locally, nationally and internationally, and generating an evidence base that will ensure changes person-centred fundamental care innovations are rigorous and evaluated.



[1] World Health Organisation. (2024). Global patient safety report. <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240095458>

[2] World Economic Forum. (2024). The Future of the Care Economy. White Paper. <https://www.weforum.org/publications/the-future-of-the-care-economy/>

[3] <https://ilccare.org>

[4] <https://ilccare.org/position-statements/>

SHAPING THE CARE ECONOMY DEBATE

Demonstrating the Economic and Social Value of Person-Centred Fundamental Care

Fundamental care supports not only individual dignity and wellbeing but also underpins broader economic stability by promoting better health outcomes and reducing preventable complications.

Collecting and Showcasing Case Studies

Case studies can clearly illustrate the direct impact of person-centred fundamental care on both individuals and health systems and delivering such care at scale.

Addressing Safety and Quality through Foundational Work

By targeting issues related to missed care, we aim to improve outcomes for patients and reduce risks associated with inadequate fundamental care.

Alignment with International Goals

The ILC will ensure that our initiatives are leading or closely aligned with established international objectives that seek to improve economic conditions, health outcomes, and overall wellbeing.

Fostering Collaborative Partnerships

The ILC will actively seek out partnerships with organisations that share our vision, working together to realise the full potential of person-centred fundamental care for all.

MAKING CARE VISIBLE

Building on the Fundamentals of Care Framework

The ILC will further develop and utilise the standardised language provided by the Fundamentals of Care Framework, ensuring that person-centred fundamental care is clearly described and can be effectively communicated across a diverse range of languages.

Emphasising the Centrality of Relationships

Central to person-centred fundamental care is the establishment of a trusting relationship. We emphasise that care must address integrated physical, psychosocial and relational needs, while also considering the specific environment and context in which care is delivered.

Strengthening Interdisciplinary Collaborations

We continue to honour the significant contributions of nursing theorists who have historically described the essence of care. In addition, we actively seek collaboration with our interdisciplinary colleagues, with the shared goal of enhancing the experiences of people receiving person-centred fundamental care.

MEASURING WHAT MATTERS

Driving Research and Measurement in Person-Centred Fundamental Care

Ongoing efforts to unite clinicians, leaders, academics, and research teams will assist in refining and measuring the concepts and interventions that underpin person-centred fundamental care.

Setting an International Collaborative Research Agenda

The ILC will establish an international research agenda focused on collaborative activities across several key domains:

- Measuring critical aspects of the Fundamentals of Care Framework for consistent application.
- Developing tools to measure clinical interventions linked to specific Fundamentals of Care elements
- Undertaking more cost benefit and return on investment studies that demonstrate the value of investing in person-centred fundamental care.



REDISTRIBUTING AND RECONNECTING

Leading the Redesign of Workflows for Relationship-Based Care

Driving the redesign of clinical workflows, with a particular emphasis on delivering high quality, relationship-based care, while delegating non-nursing tasks through the effective use of technological solutions

Fostering Shared Learning – Interdisciplinary and International

Fostering a culture of shared learning through the authentic exchange of real-world experiences, facilitating collective growth and ongoing development within the nursing profession.

ADVANCING PERSON-CENTRED CARE SYSTEMS

Embedding Person-Centred Fundamental Care in Practice

A steadfast commitment to keeping the patient and their families at the centre of all that we do, by prioritising the integration of the Fundamentals of Care practice process across all aspects of nursing. Make certain that the work of the ILC and its Members is carefully documented and accessible to the broader healthcare system, enabling shared learning and continuous improvement.

Partnering With Care Recipients/Patients/Clients

Actively listen to patients, valuing their voices and recognising the importance of their lived experiences in shaping the care they receive.

The ILC will work in partnership with care recipients and their established care networks.

CONCLUSION

More than ever, governments, businesses and local communities need to work together to create the right values, principles, value propositions and investment strategies that will place care and caring at the centre of our societies. This is an urgent requirement given what we know about demographic change, illness patterns and the rise in the need for high quality, safe, evidence-based respectful person-centred fundamental care.

Our care systems are not designed to manage the current and future demands and will require different strategies to solve the problems around who is going to deliver person-centred fundamental care and how we are going to do it. With investments in the safety, quality and evidence-based practice movements still not showing significant and sustained shifts now is the time to consider new approaches to combine fundamental care innovations at local, regional, national and global levels. The ILC Genoa Statement calls for action through shaping the (person-centred fundamental) care economy debate, making (person-centred fundamental) care work more visible, measuring what matters to patients and their families around the delivery of person-centred fundamental care, redistributing nursing workloads and reconnecting nurses and other members of the interdisciplinary care team to focus on patients as human beings and advancing person-centred care systems.

This document highlights the central role of collaboration, transparency, and shared learning in delivering person-centred fundamental care. By involving interprofessional and international colleagues, integrating the Fundamentals of Care process, and partnering closely with patients and their care networks, the approach ensures that care is compassionate, respectful, and consistently tailored to the needs and aspirations of each individual. The commitment to openness and continuous improvement aims to shape a more effective and inclusive healthcare system for all.

The ILC Genoa Statement builds on the previous ILC position statements and provides a set of aspirational targets that can be used to continue or start important conversations with patients and colleagues to shape the quality, safety, and evidence-based practice agendas globally.

The ILC urges all care providers, organisation and those educating the next generation of care professionals to use the ILC 2025 Genoa Statement to engage with the critical issues of improving care outcomes and workforce sustainability and stability. Conversations about the ILC 2025 Genoa Statement Actions at executive and faculty level ,and with colleagues at the front-line of care and care education, can spark change and collaboration for person-centred fundamental care.

Visit <https://ilccare.org/> to learn more about the joining the global fundamental care community, and reading more about opportunities for collaboration and shared learning.

The authors acknowledge the support of the 2025 ILC Conference Organising Committee for their involvement in shaping the Genoa Statement during and after the ILC Conference in Genoa June 2025.

1. University of Genova Department of Health Sciences
2. Texas Christian University Health Innovation Institute
3. International Learning Collaborative, University of Sydney, Queensland University of Technology
4. University of Genova Department of Health Sciences
5. University of Genova Department of Health Sciences
6. University of Genova Department of Health Sciences
7. Uppsala University Department of Surgical Sciences,
8. Amager and Hvidovre Hospital & Roskilde University, Department for People and Technology
9. Karolinska University Hospital, Cancer Theme
10. University of Applied Sciences and Arts of Southern Switzerland, Department of Business Economics, Health and Social Care. monica.bianchi@supsi.ch ORCID ID: 0000-0001-6927-4622
11. Associate Professor (IQ Health), Radboud University Medical Center: Nijmegen, Gelderland, Netherlands Getty.Huisman-deWaal@radboudumc.nl ORCID 0000-0003-2811-4176
12. University of Genova Department of Health Sciences

ILC FOUNDING PARTNERS



Email Address

admin@ilccare.org



Website

ilccare.org



INTERNATIONAL
LEARNING
COLLABORATIVE