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## The SCP model: A three dimensional methodology for understanding, profiling and evaluating mental healthcare architecture

*Keywords: mental health architecture, evaluation, normalization theory, SCP model*

### Purpose:

Architecture for community based facilities for acute mentally ill people predominantly borrowed vocabulary and methodologies from neighboring fields or relied to experimentation in order to accommodate the uneven and varied development of community psychiatry in the Western world. Mostly, the model used was normalization theory, a linear model of understanding, designing and evaluating healthcare facilities, originally developed for learning disabilities. This research supports that the domesticity-versus-institutional concept suffered from a number of limitations, especially since it was not originally constructed for acute mentally ill people.

### Methodology:

To develop a methodology that fits mental healthcare architecture, a three-dimensional, comprehensive theoretical model has been created. The methodology puts together the dialectics behind mental healthcare: the idea of dangerousness that includes the danger of harm and self-harm, the idea of disability as a result of the illness itself or as an effect of institutionalization and the idea of social reintegration as expressed by clients reclaiming their role in decision making.

### Findings:

The three parameters stated above are analogous to the three prevailing models of mental health care -- the jurisdictional, the medical and the psycho-social-- presenting an integrating three-dimensional grid of the various mental healthcare regimes and architecture. Those dimensions/parameters were safety and security, those of competence and of personalization and choice.

The model created was named SCP from the acronyms of the parameters. Due to this flexibility, the model can be used for evaluating and defining the therapeutic environment of the facilities when combined with evaluation tools such as checklists, to highlight any limitations regarding the domestic character of those environments.