Interprofessional practice (IPP) enables a partnership between a team of health care professionals and a client in a participatory, collaborative and coordinated approach to shared decision-making around health issues. Although collaborative teamwork is generally viewed as an important structural practice component within healthcare environments, it has become increasingly common to read about the challenges to genuinely collaborative teamwork in practice. These challenges are occurring between service providers where there are reports of conflict and competition rather than collaboration, and relationships are frequently distorted by mutual suspicion, hostility, and abuses of power, dominance, discrimination, exploitation, and marginalization. To a lesser degree some of these elements are also occurring at the bedside with the patient, as they may be left out of actively participating in their care decisions. It is expected that within a healthcare environment, human interactions would be characterized by caring, sharing, concern and compassion. These values describe the ethos of healthcare. This paper presentation will demonstrate that interprofessional practice is fundamental to creating a moral healthcare environment. Using Dokecki’s framework for Ethical Reflective-Generative practice (1996) this presentation will show how interprofessional practice is linked to moral practice. More specifically, seven strategies will be discussed as a guide to creating a path towards ethical reflective-generative practice in healthcare environments:

1) Expanding the scope of ethical practice
2) Practicing discourse ethics as opposed to Code of ethics
3) Questioning discipline specific professional traditions
4) Questioning the notion of expert
5) Creating partnerships with clients and other members of the healthcare team
6) Recognizing the influence of professional power, and
7) Understanding the challenge of Praxis