Perspectives on Knowledge Translation
IMHA IAB

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Knowledge Translation: Our definition

"*the exchange, synthesis and ethically-sound application of knowledge - within a complex system of interactions among researchers and users - to accelerate the capture of the benefits of research for Canadians through improved health, more effective services and products, and a strengthened health care system*"

(http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/29418.html accessed Jan 24)

Knowledge Translation: is about making a difference

(KT research and practice)
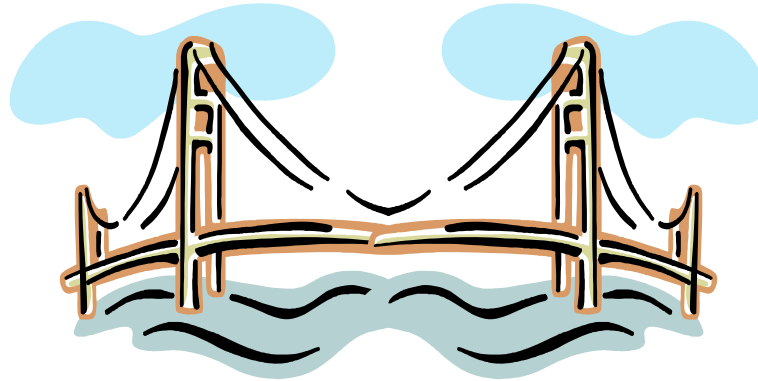
Research outputs

Research impacts

What is involved in KT?

Two broad categories of KT at CIHR
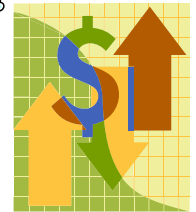
- **End of grant KT**

- **KT woven into the research process**
  (integrated/embedded KT)

Broad spectrum of activities including:

Diffusion/"researcher-push"

Conference presentations

Peer reviewed publications (Open access policy)

Non-peer reviewed publications

Website postings

Also includes:

Dissemination activities that tailor the message and medium to a specific audience (researcher-push/ user-pull)

- End of grant report to funders
- Summary/briefings to stakeholders
- Educational sessions with patients, practitioners and/or policy makers
- Engaging end users in developing & executing dissemination/implementation plan
- Commercialization efforts
- Tools creation
- Media engagement
- Use of knowledge brokers

End of grant KT Efforts

Related to:

- Potential importance/impact of using the findings
- Strength of the evidence supporting the findings
- Target audience(s)
- What is known about effective strategies to reach the audience(s)
- What is practical and feasible to do
- Who else should be involved in KT efforts

What is integrated KT?

- **a way of doing research**
- **collaborative research, action-oriented, co-production of knowledge (engaging researchers and stakeholders (end-users)**
- **involves integrating stakeholders into the entire research process**

Study stakeholders can be:

- Investigators from different disciplines, teams, countries
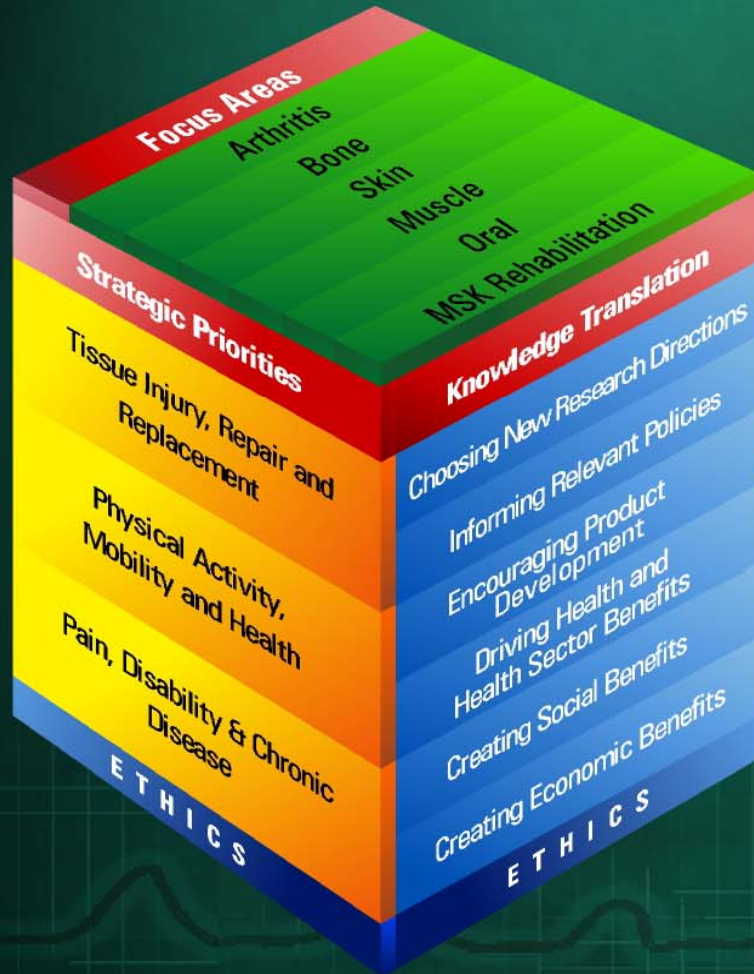- Policy makers, decision makers, research funders, the public, clinicians, the media

They can be involved in:

- Shaping the research questions

- Deciding on the methodology

- Helping with data collection and tools development

- Interpreting the study findings

- Crafting the message and disseminating the research results

- Moving the results into practice

IMHA

Focus Areas
Arthritis
Bone
Skin
Muscle
Oral
MSK Rehabilitation

Strategic Priorities
Tissue Injury, Repair and Replacement
Physical Activity, Mobility and Health
Pain, Disability & Chronic Disease

Knowledge Translation
Choosing New Research Directions
Informing Relevant Policies
Encouraging Product Development
Driving Health and Health Sector Benefits
Creating Social Benefits
Creating Economic Benefits

E T H I C S

Partnerships

Researchers
Health care providers
Policy makers
Canadian public
Private sector
Patients/patient groups

IMHA'S INITIATIVES IN KT

- KT RFA module – researchers can include a KT proposal in operating grants for up to $25K in additional funds.

- KT database – IMHA is developing a KT "Just in time" database to start receiving reports from IMHA-funded researchers, as per RFA requirements. Research results and metrics will be classified into IMHA's 6 KT impact areas.

- Knowledge Exchange Task Force (KETF) – comprises stakeholders committed to translating research knowledge to end users and to helping to identify research priorities.

- KT "train the trainer" fall institute for IMHA STIHRs – trainees from each STIHR will be trained in the broad and practical aspects of KT (all 4 pillars). They in turn will take modules to their respective STIHRs and institutions to train others.

KT Related Funding and Award Opportunities

- Institute strategic initiatives (integrated KT)
- KT workshop and symposium opportunities
- Partnerships in Health Services Innovation (PHSI) (integrated and EGKT)
- Knowledge to Action strategic initiative (integrated and EGKT)*
- Synthesis RFA (integrated)*
- KT award – regional and national
- Fellowship priority announcements*
  - Knowledge Translation
  - Health communications
- * Dec 2006 launch

Next steps for the KT Portfolio

- **Consolidate KT, Partnerships and Evaluation staff under the portfolio**

- **Understand SDs' and Institutes' issues and concerns about KT, Partnerships and Evaluation**

  - Meet with SDs, IRT, Attend some IAB meetings

- **Develop working relationships with institute-based KT, partnership, and evaluation experts**

Next steps for the KT Portfolio

- **Respond to the KT issues raised by the IRP**

- **Update and streamline CIHR's KT definition in keeping with current KT theory and practice**

- **Develop a process for updating CIHR's KT strategic plan**

Next steps for the KT Branch

- **Branch name change**
  - (?Knowledge Synthesis and Exchange Branch)

- **Pan-CIHR KT Casebooks (launch coming soon)**
    - opportunity to showcase the success stories of all the Institutes
    - opportunity to further our understanding of KT by seeing successful as well as less successful cases

CIHR IRSC

- **Develop expectations for KT activities for applicants and KT review criteria for peer-reviewers**

- **Review and revive grants and awards investment in existing and new KT research, training, and synthesis activity**

Canada

Merci- Thank you

QUESTIONS?

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