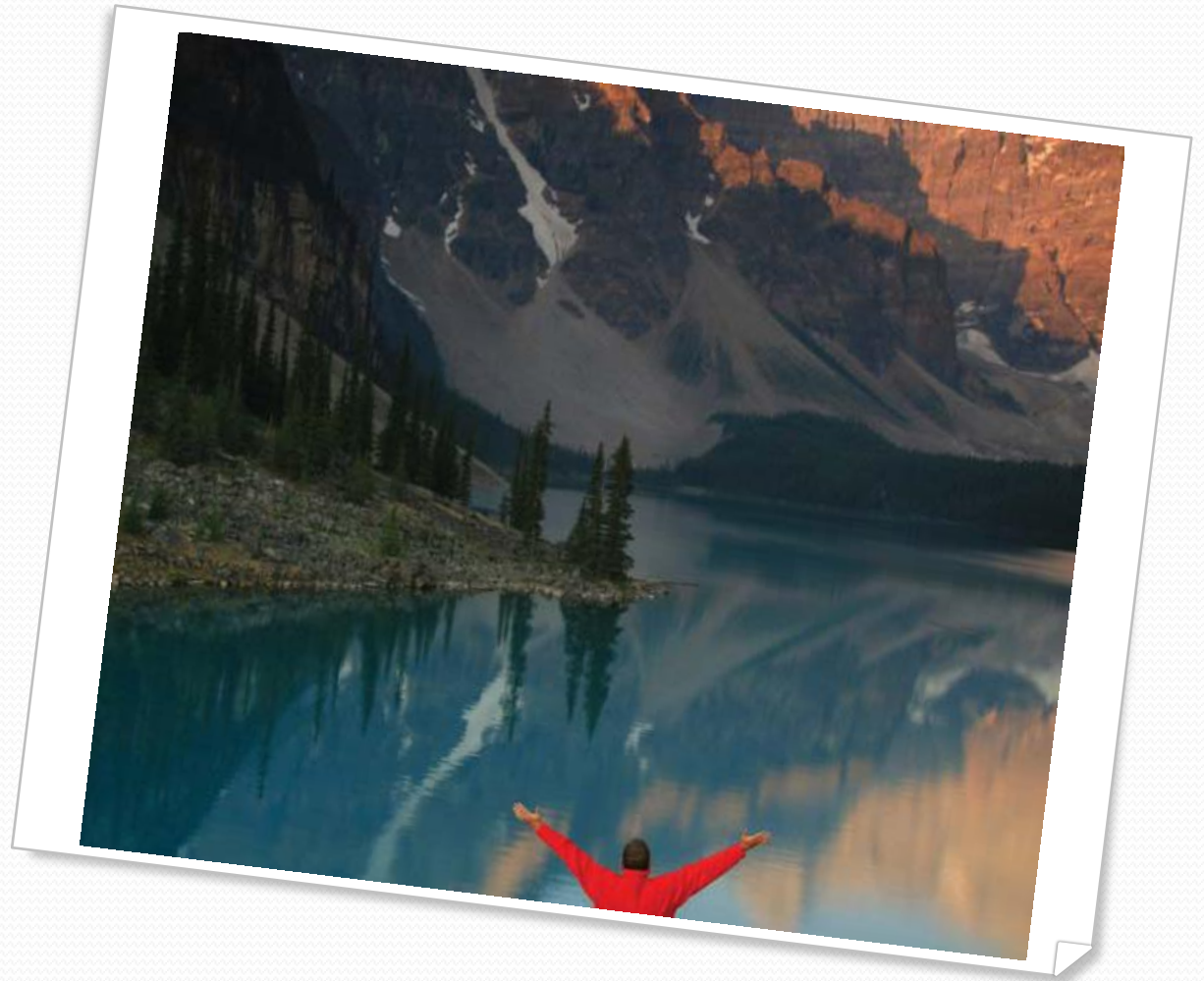


***KT08 Forum
Knowledge
Translation:
forum for the
future***

**MODULE 4:
DOING RESEARCH
IN WAYS THAT
MAXIMIZE
IMPACT**



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Speeding up the Spread

Putting KT
research into
practice and
developing an
integrated KT
collaborative
research agenda.



The Ladder of Abstraction



constructs

concepts

“facts”

Managing paradox

- “the possibility that incongruity or inconsistency can act as a source of vitality does not spring naturally to the empirical mind. Yet it is some such model that students of the human order now seem (to me) to need. And they need it not merely in coming to terms with their subject matter but in making sense of the body of thought they themselves produce.”
- (Hudson 1976)

MODULE 4: DOING RESEARCH IN WAYS THAT MAXIMIZE IMPACT

- What are the optimal conditions, contexts and relationships for research evidence to be used most effectively in society?

Speeding up the Spread

- **Proposition 1**

The public's and society's expectations of researchers and their role in generating new knowledge have changed from being perceived as passive recipients of KT to expecting to become active partners in each step of the research/knowledge generating process.

Speeding up the Spread

“it’s time for the laboratory research that has defined science for the last 400 years to make room for a revolutionary new method of scientific discovery.”

(Schneiderman 2008)

Solutions not problems

- “the research agenda is set by the organisations’ needs, the research is done collaboratively between the managers, the clinicians and the researchers; and the results find their way directly into practice through integrated management structures and processes”

(Lomas 2003)

Speeding up the Spread

- **Proposition 2**

One consequence of this is the way that research is developed, conducted, rewarded, assessed and implemented is changing. Institutions that are closely connected to knowledge production will have to change accordingly or lose their influence and ultimately their funding and resources (i.e. universities, funding agencies, policy organizations, provider services).

Solutions not problems

“Knowledge is now regarded not as a public good, but rather as ‘intellectual property’, which is produced, accumulated and funded like other goods and services in the ‘knowledge society’.

In the process, a new language has been invented – a language of application, relevance, contextualisation, reach out, technology transfer and knowledge management”

(Nowotny H et al., 2003).

Speeding up the Spread

- **Proposition 3**

Researchers need to acquire KT sensitivity, understanding, appreciation and skills. This means a gradual move from legitimate 'end of grant' activities to a much greater emphasis on appropriate KT approaches. The consequences are ... more funding, explicit acknowledgement of KT as a legitimate part of the research process, more training and support, broader research teams and change in funding and evaluative criteria.

Summary of Mechanisms to Promote KT

Researcher Interventions

At the time of application

- Relevance
- KT plan
- Lay summary of plan
- Partnership with stakeholders
- Define KT analysis

End of study

- Publish
- Final report
- Acknowledge funders
- Attend workshop
- Lay summary
- Report comm.
- Report for decision makers

(Tetroe et al2008)

Summary of Mechanisms to Promote KT

Agency (broader) interventions

Tools and techniques

- Audience tailored (AT) publications
- Media
- AT web-pages and web-sites
- Development of tools
- Use of drama

Services

- Translation e.g. helping researchers comm. with media
- HTA/political/R synthesis
- Tech transfer
- Lectures

Linkage

- Joint setting of research agenda
- Linkage and exchange
- Web-based/real time networking
- Programmes for decision makers

(Tetroe et al 2008)

Speeding up the Spread

- **Proposition 4**

In order to accelerate KT research, urgent attention needs to be paid to agreement on:

- Working/operational definitions that reflect the scope and boundaries of the domain of KT
- Broad conceptual frameworks and how they inform theory, methodology and method
- How to conceive, develop and run complex multidisciplinary research programmes that focus as much on process as outcomes.

Speeding up the Spread

- Primary Concept
- KT focusing on ***knowledge***
- KT focusing on ***research***
- KT focusing on ***process***
- KT focusing on ***miscellaneous factors*** . . .

Conceptual Frameworks, Theories and Models that inform KT

- Diffusion of Innovations $SI = f(I, C, T, SS)$
- Management of Innovations $SI = f(O, D, C)$
- Managing Knowledge across Boundaries
- $SI = f(K, B, A/C)$
- Promoting Action on Research Implementation in Health Services $SI = f(E, C, F)$

- Realistic Evaluation $C+M=O$

Conceptual Frameworks, Theories and Models that inform KT

- Diffusion of Innovations in Service Organizations
- Factors in Theories on Behaviour Change
- Ten-Stage Model for Planning Change
- The Knowledge-to-Action Model

Speeding up the Spread

- **Proposition 5**

An international, interdisciplinary, collaborative research agenda can be created with priorities and preferences built into it, properly funded and with the right infrastructure in order to speed up the spread of K into practice. Research will span curiosity driven, theoretical research in KT as well as integrated applied practice-based research.

Speeding up the Spread

1. How do we define the boundaries of the intervention?
Is it a theory, an hypothesis to be tested, a model?
2. Who develops the intervention and who 'owns' it? Should it be created by researchers and given to practitioners? Should it be created by practitioners and researchers evaluate the process and outcomes? Should the intervention be co-created and co-owned by the researchers and the practitioners?
3. What level of feedback, alteration, change is acceptable to the intervention within the research process?
4. What scientific methods are best suited to the study of complex interventions?

Speeding up the Spread

5. How do we construct the boundaries around the discipline of KT – conceptually, theoretically and methodologically – in order to speed up the process of getting knowledge into practice?
6. Do we have to come to agreement on the above factors/issues before we can agree on working definitions of key terms within the discipline?

Speeding up the Spread

- **Proposition 6**

All health researchers...from the molecular biologist to the sociologist...need training in how to contextualize KT for their particular type of research. As a researcher, what is it that I produce that might be of use to others? Who are the users? How do I reach them? How do I provide the information in the most useful way? How will I know if I am communicating effectively?

Traditional 'blue skies' pure research

End of grant

1. Validation/testing of science

Peers/research/knowledge generation community.

Purpose –test science; Gain acceptance; Contribution to knowledge; V/R ; Quality assessment

2. Who are the key stakeholders?

People you expect to use the Research; Funders – report; Users – possibly a tailored message to specific audiences e.g. summary briefings; more interactive approaches e.g. educational sessions to key groups; media engagement; use of knowledge brokers.

3. Developing commercialization potential

Technology Transfer ; Patents; Creating a commodity business

4. Further development and testing

Sustainability of research programme

Setting up of programmatic/international research activity

(Tetroe et al 2008)

Co-production of knowledge

Integrated approach

1. Validation/testing of science

Creating a new discourse where new criteria around Q/V/R are used to judge the rigor, appropriateness, timeliness, impact of research

2. Who are the key stakeholders?

Users, decision makers, funders, managers; Priority to bring key stakeholders into the research process/active collaboration: shaping of research question; Decisions about method; involvement in data collection and tool development; implementation of findings; dissemination; implementation of research

3. Developing commercialization potential

Same can happen but who owns it? Tension over K as commodity
How do we sustain investment/innovation/development?

4. Further development and testing

New funding models; Creating sustainable integrated international transdisciplinary research ; Programmes with clear goals and processes

(Tetroe et al 2008)

Speeding up the Spread

- **Proposition 7**

More effort/investment in evaluation and research on better evaluation methodologies needs to be made in order to learn if KT programs, structures, frameworks and theories are working and if not, why not.

Speeding up the Spread

- Variability in terminology, concepts and constructs
- Importance of funding 'science' of KT
- Synthesis function of agencies
- Training function of agencies
- Having a forum for funders
- Role of agency in 'push', 'pull', 'linkage and exchange'
- Role of agency as 'knowledge brokers' responsible for KT
- Problems of evaluating effectiveness of KT strategies at funding level

Source: Tetroe et al 2008.



MODULE 4: DOING RESEARCH IN WAYS THAT MAXIMIZE IMPACT

- How can we do research in ways that accelerate the uptake of findings into practice and policy?
- How might **I** do **my research** differently to increase the uptake of findings **I produce** into practice?

MODULE 4: DOING RESEARCH IN WAYS THAT MAXIMIZE IMPACT

- From 10.15 the individual tables will be asked to break into groups of '2s", for 10 minutes
- For the next 10 minutes, the participants will be asked to form groups of 4 or 6 people (2 groups of 2 or 3 groups of 2) at their tables of 10 people, and synthesize the points raised up one level.
- During the final 40 minutes, the tables work through the issue to arrive at 3 brief statements of the overarching suggestions arising from the discussions. The note-takers will have a key role in helping through this to capture the key suggestions from each table.
- between 11:15 and 11:50 there will be a reporting back