

KNOWLEDGE UTILISATION COLLOQUIUM 2011 (KU11) BELFAST, NORTHERN IRELAND – 14-16TH June 2011

Café Theme 2 Spread and Sustainability of Innovations

Meta Question: How can the sustainability and spread of proven innovations be maximised in healthcare organisations / healthcare systems?

Sub-questions/statements:

KT research involves trialling and evaluating KT strategies and disseminating knowledge about successful innovation – is it legitimate therefore for KT researchers to hand over the baton for sustainability and spread to health care organisations?

It is thought that the effective spread of innovation is determined more by inter-personal and inter-organisational interaction than by structures and technology. What evidence do we have to support this claim?

Focusing on the past, over-emphasis on micro-culture and a lack of willingness to share resources (economic and otherwise) hinder inter-organisational collaboration and effective relationships that might enhance innovation spread and adoption. How might these challenges be addressed?

What are the key levers to support the spread of innovation at a) organisational level, b) whole systems level?
How might these (potential) levers be maximised?

To what extent do existing KT frameworks address the spread of innovations?

Is there a need for existing KT frameworks to be extended in view of the world cafe discussion - or on the basis of the discussion should we be developing new framework(s)?

Before the session:

Participants are asked to think of a specific example of trying to sustain or spread a KT innovation. This example can be drawn from your own work or from the work of others. Using this example, you are asked to reflect on:

- What strategies and approaches were used?
- What (if any) theoretical or conceptual framework were these based upon?
- What challenges in using the approach were experienced?
- How were the challenges overcome?
- What learning occurred and would you do it again?