

At the Intersection of Knowledge Translation, Evaluation and Implementation Science; Navigating a Role for Evaluation

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Methods & Tools

Knowledge Translation

- Integrated KT: Research users are engaged as equal partners alongside researchers throughout the entire research process (CIHR, n.d.; MSFHR, n.d.)
- End-of-grant/Project KT: The researcher develops and implements a plan for making potential research-user audiences aware of the knowledge that is gained during a project (CIHR, n.d.; MSFHR, n.d.)
- Instrumental utilization: A concrete application of research from one or more studies, which is normally translated into a material and usable form, such as a protocol or set of guidelines (Thomas et al., 2016)
- Conceptual utilization: Research findings from one or more studies that may change someone's thinking but not necessarily his/her observable actions (Thomas et al., 2016)
- Persuasive/symbolic utilization: The use of research findings from one or more studies as a persuasive (or political) tool to legitimize a position or practice (Thomas et al., 2016)
- Knowledge-to-action framework: A cyclical process by which knowledge is implemented. It represents phases of activities that, according to planned-action theories, are needed for knowledge applications to achieve a deliberately engineered change in groups that vary in size and setting. (CIHR, 2015; Graham et al., 2006)
- Research Impact Evaluation: Useful for guiding end of grant KT

Evaluation

- Formative evaluation: Ensures a program or program activity is feasible, appropriate, and acceptable before it is fully implemented (CDC, n.d.)
- Process/implementation evaluation: Determines whether program activities have been implemented as intended (CDC, n.d.)
- Outcome/effectiveness evaluation: Measures program effects in the target population by assessing the progress in the outcomes or outcome objectives that the program is to achieve (CDC, n.d.)
- Impact evaluation: Assesses program effectiveness in achieving its ultimate goals (CDC, n.d.)
- Community-based participatory research / Community-based participatory action research: A collaborative approach to research that involves all stakeholders (including those most affected by a community issue) throughout the research process. (Advancement Project, 2011; Rabinowitz, n.d.)
- Canadian Academy of Health Sciences Evaluation Framework: Employed by provincial health research funders to determine the impact of health research
 - Needs assessment
 - Developmental evaluation
 - Utilization-focused evaluation
 - RE-AIM
 - Precede-Proceed
 - Principles Focused Evaluation

Implementation Science

- Consolidated Framework for Implementation Research: Developed in 2009. Provides a menu of constructs that have been associated with effective implementation (OHRI, 2018)
- Theoretical Domains Framework: Developed in 2005 and a subsequent validation version in 2012. Identifies 12 domains of modifiable factors that determine behavior across a range of settings (Atkins et al., 2017; OHRI, 2017)
- RE-AIM Framework: Conceptualizes public health impact of an intervention as a product of the interaction between five factors: reach, effectiveness, adoption, implementation and maintenance (NIH, n.d.)
- Precede-Proceed: Offers a detailed process for program planning and evaluation that considers the impact of the organizational and environmental systems on the selected intervention (NIH, n.d.)
- Dynamic Sustainability Framework: Focuses on sustainability and change as a central influence on sustainability (NIH, n.d.)
- Practical, Robust Implementation and Sustainability Model (PRISM): A model for translating research into practice relying on multiple aspects of other IS models, as well as the quality improvement literature (NIH, n.d.)



Knowledge
Translation

Closing the knowledge-to-practice gap
(clinical research evidence to health care settings)



Evaluation

Systematically analyzing the value of an intervention
(accountability, learning and decision-support)



Implementation
Science

Study of methods and strategies to promote the
uptake of interventions

(what works, for whom and under what circumstances, and how
interventions can be adapted and scaled up in ways that are
accessible and equitable)

Reference abbreviations

Detailed reference

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- The slides on the Consolidated Framework for Implementation Research and Theoretical Domains Framework are from Webinar 4: <http://www.patientsafetyinstitute.ca/en/toolsResources/KTIS-Webcast-Series-2018/Documents/KTIS%20Session%2004%20-%202018-05-02.pdf>

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