

Research translation template

This guide has been adapted from end-of-grant knowledge translation templates by Barwick (2013)¹ and the Canadian Institute of Health Research (2012)². It has been designed to assist researchers translate their research findings regardless of the study type and design.

However, for the purpose of this workshop, research translation refers to adapting findings from pre-clinical and clinical research for application to (1) other pre-clinical and clinical research, (2) clinical practice (3) health policy and (4) consumers and carer knowledge, attitudes and/or behaviour

All factors below (1-6) should be considered in every research translation plan.

1. Goals: what do you want to achieve?

Prioritise goals based on strength of research findings, likely impact, and ease of achieving:

- Increase knowledge/awareness
- Inform future research
- Inform/change attitudes
- Inform/change behaviour
- Inform/change policy
- Inform/change practice
- Inform/change technology
- Other:

Specifically, the goal is to:

2. Users: who do you want to know about and use your research findings? Who will you target with the outcomes?

Also consider: is there a leader/change champion supported by peers and management?

- Other researchers (clinical & pre-clinical)
- Researchers from other disciplines
- Clinicians/health service providers working with cancer patients/stroke survivors
- Oncology/Rehab unit administrators/managers
- Peak bodies – Cancer Councils, Stroke Foundation
- Government bureaucrats

¹ Barwick, M. 2013. Knowledge Translation Planning Template (Revised). Toronto: The Hospital for Sick Children.

² Canadian Institute of Health Research. 2012. Guide to Knowledge Translation Planning at CIHR: Integrated and End-of-Grant Approaches. Ottawa. Available from: www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca. Cat. No. MR4-11/2012E-PDF

- Policy makers/legislators
- Carers and family members
- Media
- Research funders
- Community-based and not for profit organisations, volunteer organisations
- Other:

3. Strategy: how will you disseminate your research findings to the intended users?

A. Strategies for diffusion (when aiming to change knowledge of users who typically seek out research evidence)

- Conference presentations
- Publications (peer-reviewed, ideally in open-access journal/not peer-reviewed)
- Web-based activities e.g. blogs, podcasts
- Other:

B. Strategies to promote use/implementation of research findings (when aiming to change knowledge of users who may not be looking for your research)

- Social marketing e.g. Facebook, Twitter
- Media release/outreach campaign
- Plain language summaries
- Development of educational materials
- Development of clinical practice guidelines
- Build relationship with end-users
- Interactive small group meeting/workshop held at knowledge user's location
- Presentations to relevant networks
- Summary briefings to stakeholders
- Engage champions/opinion leaders
- Involvement of facilitator/knowledge broker
- Financial intervention/incentive
- Audit and feedback
- Reminders (e.g. electronic reminders in patient files, check boxes on documentation)
- Patient decision-support aids (provide information about options and outcomes)
Patient-oriented intervention (actively engages patient to improve their knowledge/health behaviour)
- Arts-based intervention

- a. Adapt message for target users and context in which research findings will be used
- b. Identify barriers and enablers to use of research findings
- c. Tailor messages and interventions to account for barriers & enablers to promote use
- d. Monitor use of research findings, adapt strategies if required
- e. Evaluate outcomes
- f. Ensure sustainability

4. Impact and evaluation

How will you know if you have achieved your research translation goal? Consider:

- Reach indicators (# distributed, # requested, # downloads/hits, media exposure)
- Usefulness indicators (read/browsed, satisfied with, usefulness of)
- Use indicators (# intended to use, # adapting the information, # using to inform policy/advocacy/ training/education/research, # using to improve practice or performance)
- Partnership/collaboration indicators (# products/services developed or disseminated with partners, # or type of capacity building efforts, social network growth)
- Practice change indicators (intent or commitment to change, observed change, reported change)
- Program or service indicators (outcome data, feedback, process measures)
- Policy indicators (feedback, process measures)
- Knowledge change (quantitative and qualitative measures)
- Attitude change (quantitative and qualitative measures)
- Systems change (quantitative and qualitative measures)

5. Expertise

Are the intended users of the research findings involved in achieving the stated goals? Is there sufficient expertise within the team to execute the proposed strategies?

Expertise required could include individuals in the following roles:

- Individual with expertise in theory or practice of research translation
- Facilitator/knowledge broker
- Research translation supporters in management
- Representative from target user population
- Community leaders
- Public relations
- Website developer/IT experts
- Writer/editor/copy editor/videographer
- Other:

6. Resources

Do you have adequate financial support to implement the plan?

Necessary resources could include:

Personnel

- Individual with expertise in theory or practice of knowledge translation
- Facilitator/knowledge broker
- Public relations/marketing specialist
- Graphic design/layout
- Writer/editor/copy editor
- Research assistant to collect data for evaluation
- Reimbursement of users' time to participate in research translation strategies

Other

- Mailing and postage
- Media development and release
- Open-access publication fees
- Production/printing
- Teleconferences/travel
- Web-related costs (blog, podcasts, website development/maintenance)
- Workshops/meetings/networking costs
- Financial incentives
- Other: