Knowledge Translation

- 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

According to Szeben (2003), “… deliberate means where information is diffused with an implementation stratagem to ensure that information is reaching a desired population and subsequently being used in current practices” (p 134)
Knowledge Translation

...scientific study of the methods for closing the knowledge-to-practice gap, and the analysis of barriers and facilitators inherent in this process.


Is knowledge translation really needed?

Journal of Associated Score of Personal Angst

Ambivalent about renewing your Journal subscriptions?
Do you feel Anger toward prolific authors?
Do you ever use journals to help you Sleep?
Are you surrounded by piles of Periodicals?
Do you feel Anxious when your journals arrive?
**Delays of Evidence into Practice**

- James Lind (1716 – 1794)
- James Lancaster (1551)
- Data published 1754
- 40 years later……….

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**Delays of Evidence into Practice**

Ignatz Semmelweis
- 1846 puerperal fever
- Mortality rate 18% to 1.2%

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**That Was Then….. What About Now?**

A recent survey with a random sample of 1097 registered nurses in the U.S. indicated that:
- Besides time, the greatest personal barrier in using information in practice was “lack of value for research”
- The greatest organizational barrier to using information in practice was “presence of other goals with a high priority”

Source: Pravikoff, Pierce, & Tanner (2005). Nursing Outlook, 53 (1), 49-50
Conclusion from the AAN Expert Panel Study

RNIs in the United States aren’t ready for evidence-based practice

- information literacy
- computer skills
- limited access to high quality information resources
- attitudes toward research


Readiness of US Nurses for EBP (Pravikoff et al. AJN, 2005)

Stratified random sample of 3,000 nurses (37% response rate; 51% ADN/Diploma)

Reported Findings

- 39% reported needing info to support care seldom or 1-2X month
- 58% never used a research report
- 82% never used a hospital library
- 57% had a library
- 77% had never had instruction in electronic searches
- 19% confident in using CINAHL; 36% Medline

Research is of little value unless the findings are used in practice to improve care

(Schultz, 2006)
Is KT really really needed?

Problems for decision-makers

- Volume of scientific findings
- Complexity of design


Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews

[Graph showing increasing trend]


Integration and Simplification

[Diagram of integration and simplification process]


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Smoking makes you ugly

World Health Organization

Knowledge Management
Focus: National Policy Makers, WHO Programs and Health Professionals

- Improve access to world's health information
- Translate knowledge into policy and action
- Leverage eHealth in countries


- From blobbogram

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Plain Language Summaries
1 min
5 min
15 min

Knowledge Translation Program
Faculty of Medicine - University of Toronto

Founded 2000
Mission:
Develop, test, and implement evidence-based knowledge translation strategies and to bridge the gap between research evidence and practice.

The BLACK Box
Do I Know What I Do?  
Do I Do What I Know?

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Summary of supportive evidence used by Trowbridge & Weingarten Chapter 54 of AHRQ Report

A few words about…

Beliefs
Nurses' Perceived Knowledge, Beliefs, Skills, and Needs Regarding EBP: Implications for Accelerating the Paradigm Shift

Findings: Correlations among beliefs, knowledge and EBP

Nurses held strong beliefs that EBP would improve clinical care and patient outcomes (r = .32, p = .000). Knowledge (r = .42, p = .000) and beliefs (r = .4, p = .000) about EBP are related to the extent that nurses engage in EBP. The extent to which nurses' practices were evidence based were correlated with having a mentor that facilitates EBP (r = .21, p = .05)
Pilot Testing of the ARCC Model

Fostering EBP in a Community Health Setting

- Major findings:
  - Nurses in the 16 week ARCC intervention program, compared to comparison intervention nurses, had significantly higher beliefs about EBP, higher EBP implementation, and increased group cohesion
- Preliminary support of the ARCC model
  - Knowledge alone does not change nurses beliefs about EBP
  - Mentoring and immersion in EBP is essential to facilitate and maintain attitude change

Translating clinicians’ beliefs into implementation interventions (TRACII): a protocol for an intervention modeling experiment to change clinicians’ intentions to implement evidence-based practice


Knowledge Translation

Healthcare systems and individuals adapt and apply best clinical evidence

OUTCOME: patient (individual, family, community, population) is the ultimate recipient of benefits related to closing the gap between evidence and practice

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The BLACK Box