Partnered women's health research for knowledge mobilization

PWHR Knowledge Mobilization Tool

INTRODUCTION

This tool compliments [a summary of key learnings](#) from the inaugural Partnership for Women's Health Research Canada (PWHR) Seminar Series (2022-2023). It is intended to prompt reflection for researchers and research teams engaging with knowledge holders and users through research and knowledge mobilization (KM) to support sustainability, meaningful participation, and reciprocity.

Consider returning to this tool throughout your work to account for changes in priorities, collaborators, or needs identified in your partnerships.

TRUST

- Are you asking for feedback? When you receive it, how will you action it?
- What can you do to make your process transparent for all team members?
- How will you meet knowledge holders and users' own priorities?
- Do you have structures/processes in place to receive input and share information? What are they?

REFLECTIONS

TIME

- Have you built time into your research process to build and strengthen relationships with knowledge holders and users?
- Are you prepared to change your timeline to respond to knowledge holders and users?
- Are you engaging knowledge holders and users early—in identifying research priorities and the development of your research questions?

REFLECTIONS

FLEXIBILITY AND ADAPTABILITY

- Are you prepared to change your process/intervention/goals based on feedback from knowledge holders and users?
- How will you overcome challenges to meaningful, reciprocal engagement posed by institutions/funders/ethics boards?

REFLECTIONS

COLLABORATION

- How will you keep all members of your team engaged throughout the research process?
- Who in your own network can help you make contacts to build relationships?
- What does "collaboration" mean to team members and partners. Does everyone have a shared understanding of what the collaboration will entail.

REFLECTIONS

SUSTAINABILITY

- Who can act as a champion for your research beyond your funding period?
- How can you build knowledge and skills of your research partners (community members, service providers, policymakers) during the research process so that they sustain momentum after the research ends?
- What steps can you take at each stage of the research process to support the sustainability of your research outcomes?
- How will you sustain the relationships created through this research beyond the project? This may not be possible or desirable for you. But it is important to consider it and to communicate about with your partners so that expectations are clear.

REFLECTIONS

RECIPROCITY

- How will you show up for knowledge holders and users? Are you building resources or other measures of reciprocity into your funding application (e.g., allocating funds for training or workshops, to pay knowledge holders and users, to support communications strategies)?
- How often will you check in with knowledge holders and users to see if you are meeting their needs?
- What steps will you take to support them if their needs are beyond your expertise/the objectives of your research/the funds you have for this project?

REFLECTIONS

ENGAGING WITH COMMUNITIES

- Who are your community champions?
- What needs has your community identified, and how do they align with your research question(s) and goal(s)?
- How do they envision end-of-grant (or project) dissemination/implementation?
- What does success look like to the community? To other collaborators?
- How will you define and measure this in your project?
- How will you meet changes in community needs?
- How can you support community members?
- How would community members prefer to meet? To communicate?
- How can you create space for community members to engage with one another?
- Are you remaining open to challenging your own knowledge/beliefs?
- What systems/practices/agreements can you co-create to support reciprocity? Sustainability? Mutual respect and trust?

REFLECTIONS

ENGAGING WITH POLICYMAKERS

- Who is responsible for the thematic area of your research? Who shares your goals?
- How can you demonstrate alignment between your research and the mandate, which includes objectives, strategies/values of the relevant policymaker(s) you hope to work with? These objectives and strategies are laid out in policy documents, and for government, Ministerial mandate letters. Reviewing stated policies and understanding how your work can be framed as a resource to help policymakers advance their objectives is a step to be taken before even meeting with policymakers to discuss your research and learn more about their current priorities.
- What systems, services, academics, or other knowledge holders or users might benefit from or be interested in your research outcomes? How can their experiences and expertise contribute to this work? How can this work benefit them?
- Do you know how to communicate the intentions and importance of this work succinctly and in lay terms?
- How can your own network help you make connections with policymakers?
- Are you prepared to support policymakers with their own questions/requests and on their timelines?

REFLECTIONS

ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

Tools for practice

Ensuring Community Comes First: Actions for CCE Practitioners—Community First. (n.d.). Retrieved July 14, 2023, from https://carleton.ca/communityfirst/tools-and-resources/ensuring-community-comes-first-actions-cce-practitioners/

Evidence and Policy Blog. (2021, October 20). A 'RECIPE' with example principles and strategies for research partnerships. Evidence & Policy Blog. https://evidenceandpolicyblog.co.uk/2021/10/20/a-recipe-with-example-principles-and-strategies-for-research-partnerships/

Gontcharov, I., Kobayashi, K., & Grenier, A. (2021). Knowledge Mobilization for an Engaged Researcher. In A. Sixsmith, J. Sixsmith, A. Mihailidis, & M. L. Fang (Eds.), Knowledge, Innovation, and Impact: A Guide for the Engaged Health Researcher: A Guide for the Engaged Health Researcher (pp. 33–42). Springer International Publishing. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-34390-3_5

Mador, R., Zarinpoush, F., Gibson-Wood, H., & Dattadeen, J.-A. (2019). Processes and practices for building strong collaborative research partnerships: Lessons learned from the Locally-Driven Collaborative Projects programme. Evidence & Policy, 15(4), 607–619. https://doi.org/10.1332/174426417X15057479217862

Reflecting on social position, power, and privilege

Crosschild, C., Huynh, N., De Sousa, I., Bawafaa, E., & Brown, H. (2021). Where is critical analysis of power and positionality in knowledge translation? Health Research Policy and Systems, 19(1), 92. https://doi.org/10.1186/s12961-021-00726-w

Majid, U. (2020). The Dimensions of Tokenism in Patient and Family Engagement: A Concept Analysis of the Literature. Journal of Patient Experience, 7(6), 1610–1620. https://doi.org/10.1177/2374373520925268

Nixon, S. A. (2019). The coin model of privilege and critical allyship: Implications for health. BMC Public Health, 19(1), 1637. https://doi.org/10.1186/s12889-019-7884-9