



# Integrated Knowledge Translation at CIHR

Canadian Association of Health Services and Policy Research  
CAHSPR Conference 2015, Strategies for Motivating iKT

Montreal, Quebec  
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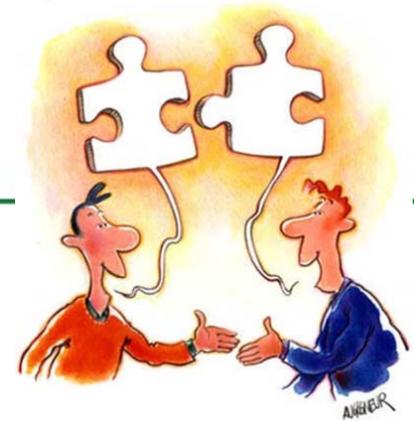
Canada

1. iKT at CIHR
2. iKT in Funding Programs
3. iKT in Initiative Design
4. iKT in Governance Models
5. CIHR iKT Activities and Resources

### Health Research Roadmap II: Capturing Innovation to Produce Better Health and Health Care for Canadians

*Strategic Plan 2014/15 – 18/19*

- CIHR's unique structure, comprising of 13 virtual Institutes, **serves to bring researchers and knowledge users together** from across disciplines, professions, sectors and geographic borders to find solutions to complex health challenges.
- “We will promote an **integrated approach to knowledge translation** that encourages the **participation of relevant stakeholders** at appropriate stages of the research process.”



### **iKT is about...**

- Bringing the creators and users of knowledge together for meaningful engagement;
- Making users aware of research evidence AND researchers aware of information needs of society;
- Co-producing knowledge, to increase relevance and likelihood of application of findings.

### **Knowledge users:**

- Individuals likely to be able to use research findings to make informed decisions about health policies and practices.
- Policy/decision makers, clinicians, health professionals, caregivers, patients, industry, not-for-profit, etc.

### **At CIHR, iKT is promoted and enabled through:**

**1. Funding Programs**

*KUs involved in research*

**2. Initiative Design**

*KUs involved in developing Initiatives*

**3. Governance Models**

*KUs involved in governing Initiatives*

**4. Activities and Resources**

## iKT – Investigator Initiated Funding Programs

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- CIHR investigator initiated KT and commercialization programs.
- Require meaningful engagement of a KU (†) and/or partner (\*)
  - Knowledge Synthesis \*
  - Knowledge to Action \*
  - Partnerships for Health System Improvement (PHSI) \*/†
  - Proof of Principle II †
  - Industry Partnered Collaborative Research (IPCR) †
- Facilitated by requirements for:
  - KU Principal Applicant and/or Partnership Contribution
  - KU peer reviewer
  - Adjudication criteria for potential impact / importance of idea

## Evaluation of investigator initiated KT Programs

- Structured iKT programs more likely to:
  - Involve partners/KUs in research
  - Influence behaviour of partners/KUs
  - Create real-world applications
- Activities between researchers and KUs continued past grant
- Key elements for success:
  - Engaging KUs in/throughout the research process
  - Commitment and buy-in from partners
  - Working with right expertise (for both researchers and KUs)
  - Tailoring/timing sharing of results to audiences
  - Involving both researchers and KUs in peer review

## iKT – Investigator Initiated Funding Programs

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- Open KT and commercialization programs are being integrated into CIHR's new open programs (Project Scheme) – June 2015.
- In turn, CIHR is broadening opportunities for KT and commercialization through its new open programs and strategic funding programs/Initiatives.
- The Project Scheme has been designed to support ideas from **researchers and KUs**, across the spectrum of research and KT.
- To continue incentivizing iKT, CIHR has committed to a minimum threshold of funded KT and commercialization projects that include a **knowledge user** and/or **partner**.
- Adjudication criteria include the **importance of the idea/iKT** considerations, and **KUs will review** when appropriate.

# iKT – Investigator Initiated Funding Programs

iKT can be particularly addressed in certain sections:

Adjudication Criteria	Sub-criteria
Concept	Quality of the Idea
	<b>Importance of the Idea</b>
Feasibility	<b>Approach</b>
	<b>Expertise, Experience and Resources</b>

## Importance of the Idea

- Describe how the research question will address an identified KU need.

## Approach

- Define how the iKT approach will maximize the likelihood of achieving the proposed benefits/impacts.

## Expertise, Experience and Resources

- Demonstrate KUs in appropriate positions and levels of decision making/influence.
- A cash or in-kind KU contribution can demonstrate commitment.

*Strategic programs and Initiatives increasingly including KU requirements.*

### eHealth Innovation Partnership Program (eHIPP)

*CIHR Institute of Health Services and Policy Research (IHSPR)*

- Inter-sectoral health care innovation communities (**collaborations of researchers, health systems, end-users and health technology partners**) to co-design solutions that will improve outcomes, patient experiences and health care efficiencies.
- Approach:
  - Integrate **end users** in the design and function of eHealth innovation.
  - **Link health care innovation communities and health technology partners** through 10 regional workshops.
- Requirements:
  - A **scientific lead, clinical lead, decision maker with authority to commit community and lead scale-up, and patient/family representative.**
- Review:
  - Relevance, cost-effectiveness, usability, scalability of innovation.
  - Quality of healthcare innovation community & health technology partner team.

## Pathways to Health Equity for Aboriginal Peoples

### *CIHR Signature Initiative*

- Initiative to adapt, implement and scale-up population health interventions.
- Potential partners and KUs heavily involved in **informing design aspects**.
- **Pathways Partner Forum** (October 2012) facilitated dialogue between approximately 100 stakeholder representatives.

### ***iKT design approach strengthened partner/KU components of Initiative:***

#### Implementation Research Teams

- **Researchers, KUs** (community members/leaders and policy makers) and knowledge holders.
- Team development funding to foster **relationships between researchers and communities**.
- Governance structures, including research-community partnerships.

#### Partners for Engagement and Knowledge Exchange (PEKEs)

- Support Aboriginal organizations as partners in research projects.
- Link and facilitate **interactions between funded researchers and Aboriginal communities**.

#### Pathways Annual Gathering

- Bring **researchers and communities together** to discuss progress of research.

## Canada's Strategy for Patient-Oriented Research (SPOR)

### *CIHR Signature Initiative*

- Patients are active partners in health research that will lead to improved health outcomes and an enhanced health care system.
- Coalition of federal, provincial and territorial partners dedicated to the integration of research into care.

### National Steering Committee oversees development/implementation of SPOR.

- Representation from **patients, researchers, health practitioners, policy makers, health authorities, academic institutions, charities, pharmaceutical sector.**

### Support for People and Patient-Oriented Research and Trials (SUPPORT) Units

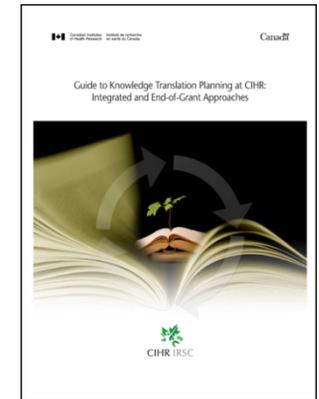
- Provincial/territorial multidisciplinary units with specialized research resources, **policy knowledge and patient perspective** – respond to locally-driven health care needs.
- **Collective iKT leadership and governance models** where key stakeholders (patients, policy makers etc.) are involved in developing and guiding all aspects of the unit.

## Activities:

- Signature/Strategic Initiatives: team development funding, workshops and matchmaking pools/portals

## Resources:

- Guide to Knowledge Translation at CIHR: Integrated and End-of-Grant Approaches <http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/45321.html>
- CIHR Knowledge Translation Learning Modules, Evaluation Tools, Casebooks and Resources <http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/39128.html>
- Applying to Integrated Knowledge Translation Funding Opportunities at CIHR: Tips for Success <http://ktclearinghouse.ca/ktcanada/education/seminarseries/2011/20110908>
- SPOR Patient Engagement Framework <http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/48413.html>



## Take-Away Messages

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### **To enable iKT, organizations can:**

- Use clear and consistent terminology (partners/KUs)
- Provide incentives and/or implement requirements for iKT, when appropriate
- Incorporate iKT throughout programs (e.g., objectives, requirements, evaluation criteria)
- Plan for increased need for flexibility/time for KU involvement
- Use iKT themselves – e.g., include a KU perspective in:
  - Designing programs/initiatives
  - Evaluating applications
  - Governing initiatives
- Facilitate research/KU connections (workshops, pools/portals)
- Support capacity building (platforms, presentations, resources)
- Incorporate iKT into operational templates/frameworks



*For information on KT at CIHR, please contact:*

Alison Bourgon,  
Manager Knowledge Translation Strategy  
613-941-0816  
[alison.bourgon@cihr-irsc.gc.ca](mailto:alison.bourgon@cihr-irsc.gc.ca)