Implementing infrastructure for primary care patient oriented research: Challenges and opportunities.
Family Medicine Forum, Vancouver, November 2016

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What we want to accomplish

• At the end of the workshop, participants will:
  • Know about the Canadian and Quebec patient-oriented research strategies and the Quebec SPOR SUPPORT units (QSSU)
  • Recognize the main challenges patients, clinicians, researchers, and policy-makers face in patient oriented research in primary care
  • Identify key actions for implementing and sustaining infrastructure for practice-based patient-oriented research in primary care
Our Hour Together

- A short presentation (20 min)
  - The different facets of primary care research
  - The relevance of Practice-Based Research Networks (PBRN) for patient oriented research
  - The Strategy for patient oriented research in Québec
    - Putting in place a PC research infrastructure
  - Lessons learned
- Work in small groups (20 min)
  - What would you expect of a PC research infrastructure to help you meet your practice goals?
  - How can the QSSU act as a lever for PC in Canada?
- Back together (20 min)
  - What are the 3 top challenges the Unit must address to really make a difference for PC research?
The Patient Medical Home (PMH)
Education and Research: the 8th Pillar

• PMH should encourage and support their professionals and residents to participate in research carried out in their practice settings

• PMH should function as ideal sites for community-based primary healthcare (CBPHC) research focused on patient outcomes and comparative effectiveness of care and services

• Engaging in competitions for research grants such as CIHR SPOR should be encouraged
Figure 1. Ecology of family physician research engagement

The Ecology of Primary Care Research
Pimlott N, Katz A., CFP, May 2016
PATIENT-ORIENTED RESEARCH
Where different trends converge

- Learning health system
- Research in real-world contexts
- Recognition of the experiential knowledge of patients, users, and other partners
- Implementation science
PATIENT-ORIENTED RESEARCH

What is it?

PATIENT

• Any person who has personally experienced a health problem
• Includes family caregivers

PATIENT-ORIENTED RESEARCH

Research continuum involving:

• Patients-as-partners
• Multidisciplinary teams
• Various stakeholders

The aim of POR is to engage stakeholders in the definition of relevant research questions and to apply knowledge to improve health systems and practices.
SUPPORT UNITS

Objectives

• Define the needs of patients and knowledge users to facilitate research
• Provide a critical mass of methodological expertise that is multidisciplinary and highly specialized in SPOR
• Help decision-makers and researchers to design appropriate studies
• Further the development of methodologies and training in research on comparative effectiveness
• Provide rapid access to enriched data and integrate existing or new databases
The SUPPORTS Units in Canada

- First wave (2014-2015)
- Second wave (2016)
- Under development
Pan-Canadian SPOR Network in Primary and Integrated Health Care Innovations

- Create cross-jurisdictional opportunities to conduct research on the comparative efficiency, cost-effectiveness and scalability of innovative and integrated models of care that build on the foundations of community-based PHC.
- Foster the creation of learning health systems across the country that accelerate the timely investigation of new interventions and approaches in primary and integrated care.
- Catalyze research on and scale-up of cost-effective and innovative approaches to primary and integrated care.
- Support capacity building among researchers, clinicians, decision-makers and citizens/patients/families for timely generation and use of primary and integrated health care knowledge.
- Foster the exchange of information and evidence on successful and unsuccessful interventions and innovative models of primary and integrated health care across jurisdictions to inform policy development.
MAJOR MILESTONES FOR THE SUPPORT UNIT
The Quebec SPOR-SUPPORT UNIT
The missing link in Quebec’s research infrastructure

Permanent infrastructure
Support for POR
Improved health outcomes for patients
Priority given to primary care
Integration of care and services pathways
Unit configuration

STRATEGY FOR RESEARCH IN PARTNERSHIP WITH PATIENTS AND THE PUBLIC

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR / SCIENTIFIC DIRECTOR

“SINGLE ACCESS POINT” TO SERVICES

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

DATA ACCESS

METHODOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENTS

CLINICAL AND EVALUATIVE STUDIES IN REAL-WORLD CONTEXTS

RESEARCH ON HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES SYSTEMS, KNOWLEDGE TRANSLATION, AND IMPLEMENTATION
Challenges / Lessons learned

• Lack of a critical mass that is sufficient to change the culture over a short period of time
• Reduce access to operating grants to support projects and PBRN research
• Lack of mentoring for clinicians to engage in research
• Health care reform that is creating a lot of chaos and lack of cohesiveness and continuity in the system
Work in small groups (20 min)

• What are the challenges to fulfill the PMH vision?
• What would you expect of an infrastructure to help you meet these goals?
• How can the Quebec SUPPORT Unit act as a lever for PC in Canada?
From the whole team
THANK YOU!
Thank you / Merci!