

Integrated Knowledge Translation Research Network (IKTRN)

Interim Report

2020



ABOUT OUR LOGO



All knowledge translation activities try to bridge knowledge gaps. For this reason we chose a bridge, represented in perspective, to be one of the dominant elements of our logo. The two arches of the bridge also make up the bodies of the two partners in all integrated knowledge translation projects, knowledge users and researchers. Each is given its own colour to convey the idea that these distinct areas of expertise are essential to IKT.

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INTRODUCTION

In September 2015 our team of 58 co-investigators was awarded a \$3.3 million Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) Foundation Grant to pursue a research program dedicated to advancing the science of integrated knowledge translation (IKT). In order to emphasize our aspirations to build capacity and grow the field of IKT, we used these funds to launch the Integrated Knowledge Translation Research Network (IKTRN) in June of 2016. This network format has allowed us to grow our “team” to 118 researchers and knowledge users committed to studying, teaching and practicing IKT — or, to use the network’s motto, “doing research with the people who use it.”

The IKTRN is a comprehensive research and capacity-building program guided by four goals: 1) to advance understanding of the concept of IKT from the perspectives of knowledge users, researchers, funders and universities; 2) to assess the impacts of IKT; 3) to develop and adapt IKT theories and measurement tools; and 4) to convert evidence gained from the research program into accessible resources and build IKT research capacity. In 2018 we published the [IKTRN protocol](#) in *Implementation Science* so that our audiences could anticipate our outputs and evaluate our progress. This report presents a summary of what we have achieved so far and marks where we are at relative to our protocol. We are confident that we are meeting our milestones and, in some cases, exceeding our own expectations.

When we published our protocol, we had planned for 22 research projects. We now have 40 projects in progress or about to be launched, ten of which have been completed (five have been put on hold). All projects address at least one of the IKTRN’s goals, and some address multiple goals. While contributing to IKT science directly through research projects, we have also sought to improve conceptual clarity, develop IKT theory and expand the field of IKT overall. To achieve this, we launched our concept paper initiative. In total, our members authored 23 concept papers, of which 20 were published in a special BMC cross-journal series (along with a commentary and a blog about the series). In October 2018 we hosted a meeting with the concept paper authors to discuss their ideas and to propose IKT research priorities and recommend actions to advance the field of IKT. We published the [proceedings](#) of this meeting in early 2020.

Collectively, members of the network have published 39 peer-reviewed papers directly related to IKTRN initiatives (16 related to IKTRN research projects, 20 concept papers) plus another 83 papers on IKT topics. The IKTRN has released [three casebooks](#) comprising 25 cases focused on the inner workings of IKT research projects. One of the casebooks is devoted to trainees’ experiences doing IKT. We have also released five videos about different aspects of IKT. Overall, our members have given 61 presentations and workshops focused on IKT. In addition, our executive team developed a training course on using IKT for dissemination planning. We have delivered this workshop seven times in four different countries, reaching a total of 232 people.

We have had 31 high-performing trainees participate in our network. Our own investment in these trainees totals \$552,789 in fellowships, direct project funding and employment on research projects. Collectively, this cohort of trainees has been awarded approximately \$1.7 million in prestigious external awards. In addition to funding, we work to create as many opportunities as possible for our trainees to participate in research and knowledge translation initiatives. Trainees lead 12 of our research projects, 15 of our concept papers and 14 of our casebook cases.

We were originally scheduled to complete the IKTRN in 2023, but CIHR has extended our completion date to March 2025. This report presents data on the work of the IKTRN up to August 26, 2020. We are confident the report demonstrates that the IKTRN is a thriving and productive network that it is fulfilling its overarching objective to advance the science of IKT. Our next steps are to consider the thoughtful recommendations of our Advisory Committee, consult with our members and begin planning for the final years of the IKTRN.



Ian Graham
Director, IKTRN
University of Ottawa



uOttawa



Anita Kothari
Deputy Director, IKTRN
Western University



Western

IKTRN VISION, MISSION & GOALS

OUR VISION

We want the best practices in integrated knowledge translation (IKT) to be well-known and routinely applied to ensure health care is effective, efficient and appropriate.

OUR MISSION

We plan to bring together knowledge users and researchers to advance the science and practice of IKT and train the next generation of IKT researchers.

GOALS

To achieve this mission, the network targets the following four goals:

1. Advance understanding of the concept of IKT from the perspectives of knowledge users, researchers, funders and universities;
2. Assess the impacts of IKT;
3. Develop and adapt IKT theories and measurement tools; and
4. Convert evidence gained from the research program into accessible resources and build IKT research capacity.

IKTRN GOVERNANCE

IKTRN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



Ian Graham
Director, IKTRN
Senior Scientist, Ottawa Hospital
Research Institute | Professor,
University of Ottawa



Anita Kothari
Deputy Director, IKTRN
Associate Professor, Western
University



Chris McCutcheon
Manager, IKTRN
Ottawa Hospital Research
Institute



Laura Boland
Post-doctoral Fellow, Ottawa
Hospital Research Institute &
Western University

IKTRN ADVISORY COMMITTEE



Wendy Gifford
Associate Professor,
University of Ottawa



Susan Law
Director of Research &
Scientist, Trillium Institute for
Better Health | Associate
Professor, University of
Toronto



Anne Lyddiatt
Patient volunteer & advocate |
National Trainer, Patient Partners
in Arthritis Program



Gayle Scarrow
Director, Knowledge
Translation Michael Smith
Foundation for Health
Research (MSFHR)

IKTRN MEMBERSHIP

SUMMARY



118 members

- 32 knowledge users
- 50 IKT experts
- 11 KT and IS experts
- 25 active trainees



59 member organizations

- 34 research organizations
- 25 knowledge-user organizations

MEMBERSHIP LIST

Legend

- Co-applicant on CIHR Foundation Grant
- Current lead on IKTRN project

Knowledge Users

- Donna Angus, Consultant, British Columbia
- Beth Beaupre, Manitoba Health, Manitoba
- Krista Connell, Fertiloam Inc., Nova Scotia
- Jeanette Edwards, Winnipeg Regional Health Authority, Manitoba
- Shannon Fenton, Ontario Treasury Board Secretariat, Ontario
- Michelle Gagnon, Palix Foundation, Alberta
- Kathryn Graham, Alberta Innovates, Alberta
- Mary Elizabeth Harriman, Heart and Stroke Foundation, Ontario
- Michael Hillmer, Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care and the University of Toronto, Ontario
- Bev Holmes, Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research, British Columbia
- Russell Ives, Winnipeg Regional Health Authority, Manitoba
- Ian Jones, University of Manitoba, Manitoba
- Karen Lee, Parkinson Canada, Ontario
- Anne Lyddiatt, Patient Partners in Arthritis Program, Ontario
- Michelle McEvoy, Consultant, Ontario
- Ainslie Mihalchuk, Concordia Hospital (Winnipeg), Manitoba
- Wendy Nicklin, International Society for Quality in Healthcare, Ontario
- Patrick Odnokon, Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation, Saskatchewan
- Sheldon Permack, Winnipeg Regional Health Authority, Manitoba
- Shannon Rogalski, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, Manitoba

- **Viktoria Roman**, Innovative Medicines Canada, Ontario
- **Hélène Sabourin**, The Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists, Ontario
- **Yves Savoie**, Consultant, Ontario
- **Gayle Scharrow**, Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research, British Columbia
- **Robert Sheldon**, University of Calgary, Alberta
- **Ann Sprague**, BORN Ontario, Ontario
- **Anthony Tang**, London Health Sciences Centre, Ontario
- **Cathy Ulrich**, Northern Health Authority, British Columbia
- **Pam Valentine**, Multiple Sclerosis Society of Canada, Alberta
- **Christina Weise**, Research Manitoba, Manitoba
- **George Wells**, University of Ottawa, Ontario
- **Brock Wright**, Shared Health, Manitoba

Integrated Knowledge Translation Experts

- **Gonzalo Alvarez**, University of Ottawa and Ottawa Hospital Research Institute, Ontario
- ● **Davina Banner-Lukaris**, University of Northern British Columbia, British Columbia
- **Mari Botti**, Deakin University, Australia
- ● **Ingrid Botting**, Winnipeg Regional Health Authority, Manitoba
- **Tracey Bucknall**, Deakin University, Australia
- ● ***Christine Cassidy**, Dalhousie University, Nova Scotia
- **Julie Considine**, Deakin University, Australia
- **Maxine Duke**, Deakin University, Australia
- **Sandra Dunn**, Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario Research Institute, Ontario
- **Trisha Dunning**, Deakin University, Australia
- **Anna Gagliardi**, Toronto General Hospital Research Institute, University Health Network, Ontario
- ● **Heather Gainforth**, University of British Columbia – Okanagan, British Columbia
- **Wendy Gifford**, University of Ottawa, Ontario
- ● **Ian Graham**, University of Ottawa and Ottawa Hospital Research Institute, Ontario
- **Karen Harlos**, University of Winnipeg, Manitoba
- **Gillian Harvey**, University of Adelaide, Australia
- **Tanya Horsley**, Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada, Ontario
- **Alison Hutchison**, Deakin University, Australia
- **Emily Jenkins**, University of British Columbia, British Columbia
- ● ***Janet Jull**, Queen's University, Ontario
- **Monika Kastner**, North York General Hospital, Ontario
- ● **Anita Kothari**, Western University, Ontario
- **Sara Kreindler**, University of Manitoba, Manitoba
- ● **Susan Law**, Trillium Health Partners – Institute for Better Health, Ontario
- **Krystina B Lewis**, University of Ottawa, Ontario
- **Linda Li**, University of British Columbia, British Columbia

● Co-applicant on CIHR Foundation Grant

● Current lead on IKTRN project

* Former IKTRN trainee, training completed

- ● **Martha MacLeod**, University of Northern British Columbia, British Columbia
- **Elizabeth Manias**, Deakin University, Australia
- **Chris McCutcheon**, Ottawa Hospital Research Institute, Ontario
- **Jonathan Mitchell**, HealthCareCAN, Ontario
- **Theresa Montini**, Hunter College, City University of New York, USA
- **Mary Ann O'Brien**, University of Toronto, Ontario
- **Smita Pakhale**, University of Ottawa and Ottawa Hospital Research Institute, Ontario
- **Mark Pearson**, University of Exeter, UK
- ***Katrina Plamondon**, University of British Columbia-Kelowna, British Columbia
- **Bodil Rasmussen**, Deakin University, Australia
- ***Danielle Rolfe**, Consultant, Ontario
- ● **Jo Rycroft-Malone**, Lancaster University, UK
- **Nancy Salbach**, University of Toronto, Ontario
- **Jonathan Salsberg**, University of Limerick, Ireland
- **Shannon Sibbald**, Western University, Ontario
- ● **Kathryn Sibley**, University of Manitoba, Manitoba
- ● **Dawn Stacey**, University of Ottawa and Ottawa Hospital Research Institute, Ontario
- **Kednapa Thavorn**, Ottawa Hospital Research Institute, Ontario
- **Amanda Vandyk**, University of Ottawa, Ontario
- **Harriette Van Spall**, McMaster University, Ontario
- **Margaret Watson**, University of Strathclyde Glasgow, UK
- **Anna Williamson**, SAX Institute, Australia
- **David Wright**, University of Ottawa, Ontario
- ● **Euson Yeung**, University of Toronto, Ontario

Knowledge Translation and Implementation Science Experts

- ● **Jamie Brehaut**, Ottawa Hospital Research Institute, Ontario
- ● **Melissa Brouwers**, University of Ottawa, Ontario
- ● **Christina Godfrey**, Queen's University, Ontario
- **Jeremy Grimshaw**, Ottawa Hospital Research Institute, Ontario
- **John Lavis**, McMaster Health Forum, Ontario
- **France Légaré**, Laval University, Quebec
- **David Moher**, Ottawa Hospital Research Institute, Ontario
- **Justin Presseau**, Ottawa Hospital Research Institute, Ontario
- **Janet Squires**, University of Ottawa, Ontario
- **Sharon Straus**, St. Michael's Hospital, Ontario
- **Jimmy Volmink**, Stellenbosch University, South Africa

● Co-applicant on CIHR Foundation Grant

● Current lead on IKTRN project

* Former IKTRN trainee, training completed

Trainees

- Marina Angel**, University of Waterloo, Ontario
- **Fraser Bell**, University of Northern British Columbia and Northern Health, British Columbia
- Divya Kanwar Bhati**, Bruyère Research Institute and University of Ottawa, Ontario
- **Laura Boland**, Ottawa Hospital Research Institute and Western University, Ontario
- Aislinn Conway**, University of Ottawa and BORN Ontario, Ontario
- Meghan Gilfoyle**, University of Limerick, Ireland
- Clayton Hamilton**, University of British Columbia, British Columbia
- **Femke Hoekstra**, University of British Columbia, British Columbia
- Celia Laur**, Women's College Hospital, Ontario
- Jenny Leese**, University of British Columbia, British Columbia
- Michelle Legasto**, University of Toronto, Ontario
- Claire Ludwig**, University of Ottawa, Ontario
- Graham MacDonald**, University of British Columbia, British Columbia
- **Robert McLean**, Stellenbosch University, South Africa
- ● **Kelly Mrklas**, University of Calgary, Alberta
- ● **Tram Nguyen**, University of Ottawa and Ottawa Hospital Research Institute, Ontario
- Ilja Ormel**, McGill University, Quebec
- Nedra Peter**, Western University, Ontario
- Emily Ramage**, University of Newcastle, Australia
- Jessica Ramlakhan**, University of Toronto and University Health Network, Ontario
- **Katherine Salter**, Western University, Ontario
- Sandy Steinwender**, Western University, Ontario
- Brenda Tittlemier**, University of Manitoba, Manitoba
- **Brianne Wood**, Northern Ontario School of Medicine, Ontario
- Sarah Wu**, University of Waterloo, Ontario

IKTRN RESEARCH PROJECTS

SUMMARY



45 projects



9 projects funded by IKTRN



26 IKTRN members leading projects



16 publications from IKTRN projects to date

TABLE 1. Number of projects by goal and status

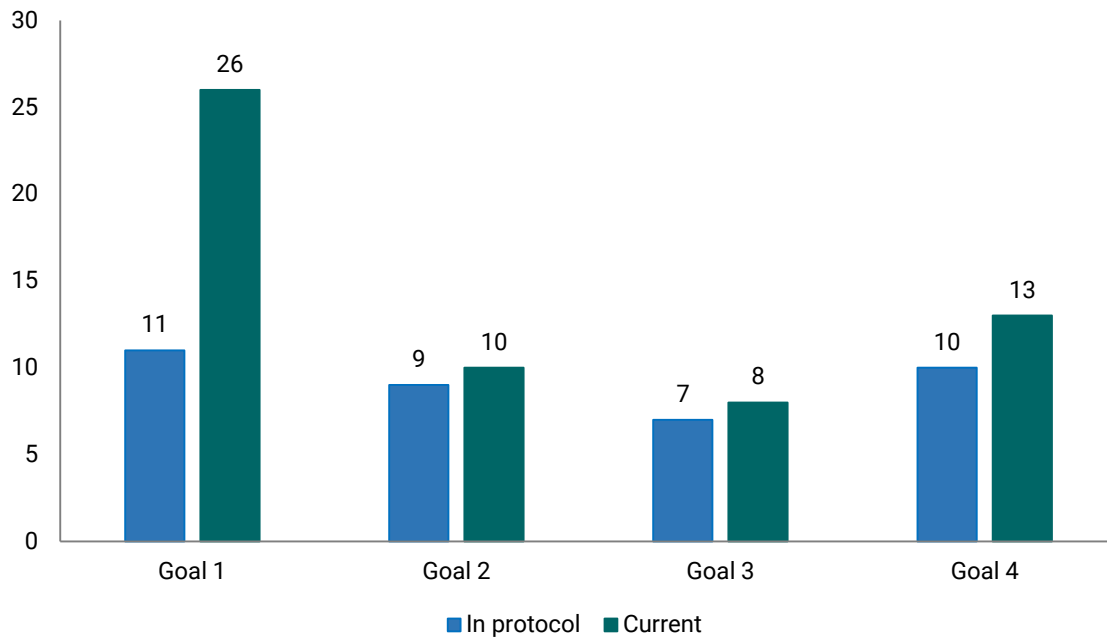
Legend

- **GOAL 1:** advance understanding of the concept of IKT from the perspectives of knowledge users, researchers, funders and universities
- **GOAL 2:** assess the impacts of IKT
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PROJECTS	Total	PRIMARY GOAL*			
		● Goal 1	● Goal 2	● Goal 3	● Goal 4
All projects	45	20	2	11	12
Complete	10	5	0	3	2
Active	28	14	1	4	9
On hold	5	1	1	3	0
Upcoming	2	0	0	1	1
Projects included in protocol	19	6	1	5	7
Complete	6	2	0	2	2
Active	10	4	0	1	5
On hold	2	0	1	1	0
Upcoming	1	0	0	1	0
Projects added since protocol	26	14	1	6	5
Complete	4	3	0	1	0
Active	18	10	1	3	4
On hold	3	1	0	2	0
Upcoming	1	0	0	0	1
Cancelled projects	4	3	1	0	0

* Some projects contribute to more than one goal; this table presents each project classified by its primary goal only.

FIGURE 1. Number of projects aligning with each goal*



** Some projects contribute to more than one goal*

PROJECT LIST

We have classified the projects into four main categories:

1. IKT theories, measures and methods
2. IKT processes and impacts
3. IKT infrastructure and capacity building
4. Studies using an IKT approach

The corresponding investigators are listed beside the project titles.

IKT theory, measures and methods (n=10)

Complete

- *† A review and synthesis of frameworks for engagement in health research to identify concepts of knowledge user engagement (*Janet Jull*)
- † Comparing and contrasting integrated knowledge translation with five approaches often used in knowledge translation: identifying and synthesizing germinal literature and consulting with experts (*Tram Nguyen*)

Active

- *‡ Co-developing and co-implementing the first integrated knowledge translation guiding principles for the spinal cord injury research system (*Heather Gainforth*)
- *‡ A scoping review on principles and strategies for research partnerships in the field of research related to people with physical disabilities (*Femke Hoekstra, Heather Gainforth*)
- * Understanding when integrated knowledge translation works: a realist review (*Anita Kothari*)
- *‡ A hermeneutic approach to implementation science (*Martha MacLeod*)

On hold

- ‡ The globally available tools for assessing health research partnership outcomes and impacts: a scoping review (*Kelly Mrklas*)
- ‡ Valid, reliable, and acceptable tools for assessing the outcomes and impact of health research partnerships: a systematic review (*Kelly Mrklas*)
- What are the available tools to evaluate the partnering process in healthcare research? A scoping review (*Tram Nguyen, Kathryn Sibley*)

Upcoming

- Developing and testing a valid, sensitive, reliable IKT questionnaire based on the Kothari et al indicators (*Anita Kothari*)

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* Includes knowledge user(s)

† Projects included in the [BioMed Central cross-journal concept paper series](#)

‡ Projects added since the publication of the [IKTRN protocol](#)

IKT processes and impacts (n=14, plus 4 cancelled)

Complete

- ● * Building and managing effective partnerships in Canadian health research (*Ingrid Botting*)
- ● *†‡ A review of reviews on principles, strategies, outcomes and impacts of research partnerships approaches: a first step in synthesising the research partnership literature (*Femke Hoekstra, Heather Gainforth*)
- ● † Collaborative health research partnerships: a survey of researcher and knowledge-user attitudes and perceptions (*Shannon L Sibbald*)

Active

- *‡ Patient engagement in Canadian circulatory and respiratory research networks: An inter-network consultation on priority setting and planning for meaningful patient engagement (*Davina Banner*)
- ● * An evaluation of an academic-health services partnership network (*Tracey Bucknall, Alison Hutchison*)
- Guideline dissemination and implementation interventions for nursing: a systematic review (*Christine Cassidy, Christina Godfrey*)
- *‡ Understanding how integrated knowledge translation approaches support the implementation of health research: a longitudinal multiple case-study investigation of research teams using integrated knowledge translation approaches (*Heather Gainforth*)
- ● ‡ Umbrella review on research partnership literature (*Heather Gainforth, Kathryn Sibley*)
- *‡ How do advisory councils work to mobilize knowledge? (*Anita Kothari*)
- ● ● * IKTRN Casebook Series (*Chris McCutcheon*)
- ● ‡ IKTRN evaluation (*Robert KD McLean*)
- ● ● * Advancing the science of integrated knowledge translation with health researchers and knowledge users: understanding current and developing recommendations for integrated KT practice (*Kathryn M Sibley, Heather Gainforth*)

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‡ Projects added since the publication of the [IKTRN protocol](#)

On hold

- ● *‡ Evaluation of the integrated knowledge translation approaches used in the Translating Research in Elder Care (TREC) research program: a mixed-methods study protocol (*Anita Kothari, Laura Boland*)
- ● * Impact of CIHR IKT funding opportunities (*Robert KD McLean*)

Cancelled

- ● ● Link between knowledge user participation and impact: the case of BORN Ontario (*Sandra Dunn*)
- ● ● Understanding IKT from the perspective of organizations: a mixed methods study (*Tanya Horsley*)
 - Exploring the role of leadership and other factors in creating and sustaining a university-health authority partnership for knowledge creation, knowledge translation and organizational change (*Martha MacLeod, Wendy Gifford*)
- ● *‡ A case study of two leading centers on childhood development to identify critical success factors influencing impact: Re-thinking disability research by fostering mutual learning and understanding between Canada and the United States (*Tram Nguyen*)

IKT infrastructure and capacity building (n=12)

Complete

- † Reporting health research translation and impact in the curriculum vitae: a survey (*Laura Boland, Dawn Stacey*)
- ● † Translating research into action: an international study of the role of research funders (*Robert KD McLean*)

Active

- University Schools of Nursing policies promoting or discouraging IKT (*Davina Banner*)
- ● *‡ Organizational factors that foster engagement – capable environments: a study of health research networks (*Davina Banner*)
- ‡ Trainees conducting IKT research (*Christine Cassidy*)
- ● ‡ Research co-production book (*Ian D Graham, Jo Rycroft-Malone, Anita Kothari, Chris McCutcheon*)

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* Includes knowledge user(s)

† Projects included in the [BioMed Central cross-journal concept paper series](#)

‡ Projects added since the publication of the [IKTRN protocol](#)

- * Conducting patient-oriented research: an online tutorial for the use of a collaborative framework for community-research partnerships (*Janet Jull*)
- * Experiences of patient-researcher partnerships in integrated knowledge translation: a study to develop online training for patient-oriented research (*Susan Law, David K Wright, Ian D Graham*)
- ‡ IKT for beginners (training modules) (*Chris McCutcheon*)
- * Knowledge translation plan guides: a pragmatic, conceptual synthesis (*Chris McCutcheon*)
- * Development and field testing of IKT training modules for researchers and knowledge users: identifying competencies for integrated knowledge translation (*Euson Yeung*)

Upcoming

- *‡ Ottawa Institutional Research and Impact Study (IRIS) (*Melissa Brouwers*)

Studies using an IKT approach (n=9)

Complete

- *‡ “Breaking the silence” to improve cancer survivorship transitions for First Nations peoples: an indigenous knowledge translation strategy (*Wendy Gifford*)
- *‡ Building nursing capacity to provide culturally safe cancer survivorship care with indigenous people in rural and remote areas: an integrated knowledge translation study (*Wendy Gifford*)
- *‡ Tailoring and field-testing the implementation of a knowledge translation peer support shared decision making strategy to facilitate participation of First Nations, Inuit and Métis people in decisions about their cancer care (*Janet Jull*)

Active

- *‡ Pressure injury in persons with spinal cord injury (*Davina Banner*)
- *‡ Adapting transitions-in-care (TiC) strategies for cancer to be culturally relevant with First Nations communities (*Wendy Gifford*)
- *‡ Building culturally safe cancer survivorship care with Inuit in Inuit Nunangat (*Wendy Gifford*)
- *‡ Developing research capacity for culturally safe transitions-in-care (TiC) cancer strategies with Pikwàkanagàn First Nation Community (*Wendy Gifford*)

● GOAL 1: advance understanding of the concept of IKT from the perspectives of knowledge users, researchers, funders and universities

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* Includes knowledge user(s)

† Projects included in the [BioMed Central cross-journal concept paper series](#)

‡ Projects added since the publication of the [IKTRN protocol](#)

- *‡ Decision coaching for people preparing to make health decisions: A systematic review using an integrated knowledge translation approach (*Janet Jull*)
- *‡ Not Deciding Alone: Field-testing a knowledge translation peer-support shared decision making strategy with Inuit making health decisions and who travel for cancer care outside of Nunavut (*Janet Jull*)

● GOAL 1: advance understanding of the concept of IKT from the perspectives of knowledge users, researchers, funders and universities

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* Includes knowledge user(s)

† Projects included in the [BioMed Central cross-journal concept paper series](#)

‡ Projects added since the publication of the [IKTRN protocol](#)

CONCEPT PAPERS

SUMMARY



31 IKTRN member authors

- 12 of which were IKTRN trainees



23 concept papers

- 20 published in BMC Collection

In March of 2017, we called on members of our network to write concept papers to develop the theoretical foundations of IKT, identify avenues for future research and provoke new thinking about the field. Our members responded by producing a rich collection of innovative papers about the theory, ethics, methods, evaluation and impact of IKT.

BioMed Central published most of these concept papers in a cross-journal series that is available [here](#).

CONCEPT PAPER LIST

This is the complete list of concept papers, including those that have not yet been published.

Legend

- **GOAL 1:** advance understanding of the concept of IKT from the perspectives of knowledge users, researchers, funders and universities
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IKT theory, measures and methods (n=10 published, n=3 upcoming)

Published

- * [Patient and public engagement in integrated knowledge translation research: are we there yet?](#) (Davina Banner, Marc Bains, Sandra Carroll, Damanpreet K Kandola, Danielle E Rolfe, Caroline Wong, Ian D Graham)
- * [Exploring the synergies between focused ethnography and integrated knowledge translation](#) (Jennifer Baumbusch, Sarah Wu, Sandra B Lauck, Davina Banner, Tamar O'Shea, Leslie Achtem)

* Includes knowledge user(s)

- [Embracing complexity and uncertainty to create impact: exploring the processes and transformative potential of co-produced research through development of a social impact model](#) (*Kate Beckett, Michelle Farr, Anita Kothari, Lesley Wye, Andrée le May*)
- *† [A review and synthesis of frameworks for engagement in health research to identify concepts of knowledge user engagement](#) (*Janet Jull, Laurie Davidson, Rachel Dungan, Tram Nguyen, Krista P Woodward, Ian D Graham*)
- * [Community-based participatory research and integrated knowledge translation: advancing the co-creation of knowledge](#) (*Janet Jull, Audrey Giles, Ian D Graham*)
- * [Fostering the conduct of ethical and equitable research practices: the imperative for integrated knowledge translation in research conducted by and with indigenous community members](#) (*Janet Jull, Melody Morton-Ninomiya, Irene Compton, Annie Picard*)
- [Advancing the evaluation of integrated knowledge translation](#) (*Sara Kreindler*)
- † [How does integrated knowledge translation \(IKT\) compare to other collaborative research approaches to generating and translating knowledge? Learning from experts in the field](#) (*Tram Nguyen, Ian D Graham, Kelly J Mrklas, Sarah Bowen, Margaret Cargo, Carole A Estabrooks, Anita Kothari, John Lavis, Ann C Macaulay, Martha MacLeod, David Phipps, Vivian R Ramsden, Mary J Renfrew, Jon Salsberg, Nina Wallerstein*)
- [Blending integrated knowledge translation with global health governance: an approach for advancing action on a wicked problem](#) (*Katrina Plamondon, Julia Pemberton*)
- [Using qualitative health research methods to improve patient and public involvement and engagement in research](#) (*Danielle Rolfe, Vivian R Ramsden, Davina Banner, Ian D Graham*)

Upcoming

- ● * Why should we pay attention to power within research co-production approaches? (*Bev Holmes, Iain Lang, Chris McCutcheon, Anita Kothari, Ian D Graham*)
- * Engaging frail and seriously ill patients in integrated knowledge translation (*Claire Ludwig, Dawn Stacey, Wendy Gifford, Ian D Graham*)
- Digital storytelling: a methodology for engaging vulnerable and marginalized populations in integrated knowledge translation (*Liquaa Wazni, Wendy Gifford*)

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* Includes knowledge user(s)

† Concept paper is also an IKTRN research project

IKT processes and impacts (n=6)

Published

- [A review protocol on research partnerships: a coordinated multicenter team approach](#) (Femke Hoekstra, Kelly J Mrklas, Kathryn M Sibley, Tram Nguyen, Mathew Vis-Dunbar, Christine J Neilson, Leah K Crockett, Heather L Gainforth, Ian D Graham)
- *† [A review of reviews on principles, strategies, outcomes and impacts of research partnerships approaches: a first step in synthesising the research partnership literature](#) (Femke Hoekstra, Kelly J Mrklas, M Khan, RC McKay, M Vis-Dunbar, Kathryn M Sibley, Tram Nguyen, Ian D Graham, SCI Guiding Principles Consensus Panel, Heather L Gainforth)
- ● * [Variable participation of knowledge users in cancer health services research: results of a multiple case study](#) (Mary Ann O'Brien, Andrea Carson, Lisa Barbera, Melissa C Brouwers, Craig C Earle, Ian D Graham, Nicole Mittmann, Eva Grunfeld)
- ● † [Collaborative health research partnerships: a survey of researcher and knowledge-user attitudes and perceptions](#) (Shannon Sibbald, Hosung Kang, Ian D Graham)
- [Conceptualising the initiation of researcher and research user partnerships: a meta-narrative review](#) (Maria Zych, Whitney B Berta, Anna R Gagliardi)
- [Initiation is recognized as a fundamental early phase of integrated knowledge translation \(IKT\): qualitative interviews with researchers and research users in IKT partnerships](#) (Maria Zych, Whitney B Berta, Anna R Gagliardi)

IKT infrastructure and capacity building (n=2)

Published

- † [Reporting health research translation and impact in the curriculum vitae: a survey](#) (Laura Boland, Lucie Brosseau, Sienna Caspar, Ian D Graham, Alison M Hutchinson, Anita Kothari, Kevin McNamara, Elizabeth McInnes, Marina Angel, Dawn Stacey)
- ● † [Translating research into action: an international study of the role of research funders](#) (Robert KD McLean, Ian D Graham, Jacqueline M Tetroe, Jimmy A Volmink)

● GOAL 1: advance understanding of the concept of IKT from the perspectives of knowledge users, researchers, funders and universities

● GOAL 2: assess the impacts of IKT

● GOAL 3: develop and adapt IKT theories and measurement tools

● GOAL 4: convert evidence gained from the research program into accessible resources and build IKT research capacity

* Includes knowledge user(s)

† Concept paper is also an IKTRN research project

IKTRN protocol and IKT state of the science colloquium proceedings (n=2)

Published

* [Moving knowledge into action for more effective practice, programmes and policy: protocol for a research programme on integrated knowledge translation](#) (*Ian D Graham, Anita Kothari, Chris McCutcheon, on behalf of the Integrated Knowledge Translation Research Network Project Leads*)

[Building an integrated knowledge translation \(IKT\) evidence base: colloquium proceedings and research direction](#) (*Laura Boland, Anita Kothari, Chris McCutcheon, Ian D Graham*)

* Includes knowledge user(s)

CASEBOOKS

SUMMARY



3 casebooks published

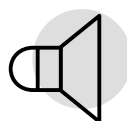


25 cases



26 IKTRN member authors

- 15 trainee authors



1 active call for cases

- With publication of volume 4 in 2021

To learn about what works in IKT collaborations, we have created the IKTRN casebook series, which documents the experiences of researchers and knowledge users. The cases published in this series provide real-world examples of IKT teams working in different contexts, exploring the challenges, benefits and impacts of working collaboratively.

To date, three volumes have been published and are publically available:



In 2019, we published **VOLUME 1**, which included 12 cases from The Canadian Association for Health Services and Policy Research's (CAHSPR) Collaborative Health Care Improvement Partnerships (CHIPs) Theme Group, CAHSPR trainees and IKTRN members.

McCutcheon C, Kothari A, Graham ID, editors. [How we work together: The Integrated Knowledge Translation Research Network Casebook. Vol. 1](#). Ottawa: Integrated Knowledge Translation Research Network. 2019.



In 2020, we published **VOLUME 2**, which included 7 cases from IKTRN members.

Kothari A, McCutcheon C, Boland L, Graham ID, editors. [How we work together: The Integrated Knowledge Translation Research Network Casebook. Vol. 2](#). Ottawa: Integrated Knowledge Translation Research Network. 2020.



In 2020, we published **VOLUME 3**, which included 6 cases by trainees at the doctoral and post-doctoral level, describing their experiences using an IKT approach during their training. These cases describe trainee-specific facilitators and barriers to using IKT approaches and include helpful suggestions for other trainees interested in using IKT approaches.

Boland L, Reszel J, McCutcheon C, Kothari A, Graham ID, editors. [How we work together: The Integrated Knowledge Translation Research Network Casebook. Vol. 3](#). Ottawa: Integrated Knowledge Translation Research Network. 2020.

TRAINEES & CAPACITY BUILDING

SUMMARY



31 IKTRN trainees and trainee alumni

- Representing 19 organizations



21 trainees and trainee alumni have led an IKTRN project and/or output



\$552,789 invested in trainees



7 IKT workshops with **232** attendees

TABLE 2. Current IKTRN trainee membership

TRAINING LEVEL	N
Postdoctoral fellows	9
Doctoral trainees	14
Master's trainees	1
Undergraduate trainees	1
Alumni *	6
TOTAL	31

TRAINEE & TRAINEE ALUMNI ORGANIZATIONS



* Four of these trainee alumni are now IKT expert members in the network.

TABLE 3. Trainee involvement in leading IKTRN projects/outputs

	N	%
IKTRN projects led by trainees	12	27
Concept papers led by trainees	15	65
Cases in IKTRN casebooks led by trainees	14	56

TABLE 4. IKTRN funding for trainees

TYPE OF SUPPORT	NUMBER OF TRAINEES	TOTAL VALUE
IKTRN Fellowships		
IKTRN postdoctoral award	5	\$242,520
IKTRN doctoral award	8	\$192,875
IKTRN master's award	1	\$12,000
Other IKTRN funding		
Funding for trainee projects	2	\$27,572
Honoraria for concept papers	3	\$4,500
Trainees hired as staff on IKTRN projects		
Paid trainee staff on IKTRN projects	12	\$73,322
	TOTAL	\$552,789

TABLE 5. Other external funding received by IKTRN trainees*

EXTERNAL FUNDING	
Number of external scholarships/awards	23**
Total value of external scholarships/awards	\$1,698,690

** Based on information from 23 current and former trainees. Of those 23 trainees, 16 received external funding, as summarized in this table.*

*** Some trainees received more than one external scholarship/award.*

TABLE 6. Making an impact workshops (using IKT for dissemination planning)

WORKSHOPS	N
Total number given	7
International	6
National	1
Total number of attendees	232

IKTRN OUTPUTS

SUMMARY



39 publications resulting from IKTRN initiatives



61 presentations resulting from IKTRN projects

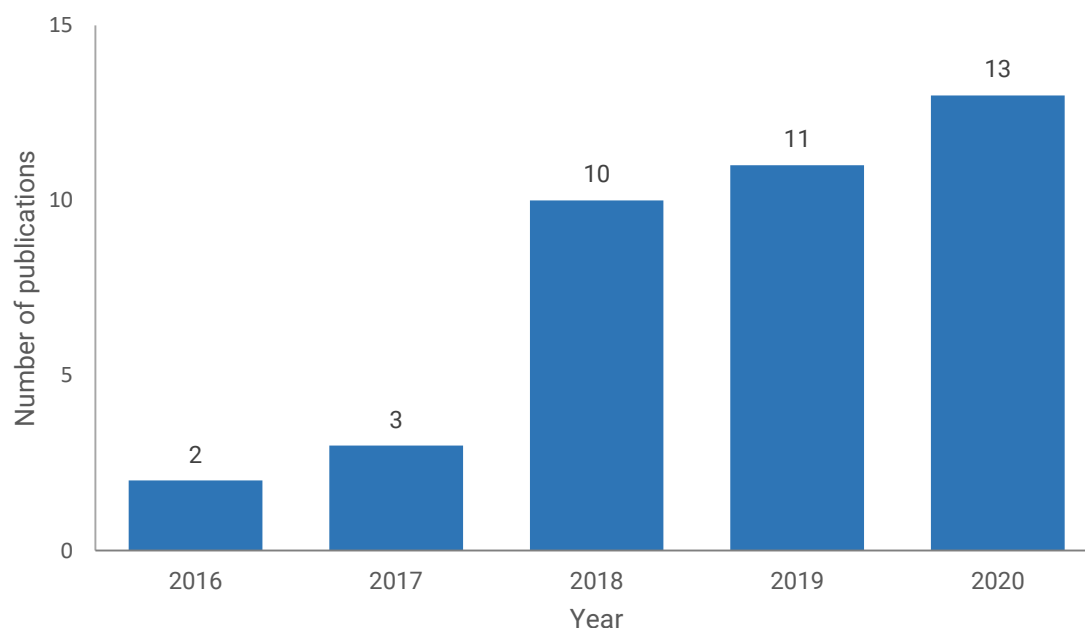


83 IKT publications by IKTRN members in PubMed collection



5 videos produced

FIGURE 2. Peer-reviewed publications resulting from IKTRN initiatives by year



LIST OF PUBLICATIONS

2020 (n=13)

1. Kreindler S. [When coproduction is unproductive](#). Int J Health Policy Manag. 2020; in press. doi: 10.15171/ijhpm.2019.140
2. Holmes BJ. [Re-imagining research: a bold call, but bold enough?](#) Int J Health Policy Manag. 2020; in press. doi:10.15171/ijhpm.2019.139

3. Plamondon KM. [Reimagining researchers in health research](#). Int J Health Policy Manag. 2020; in press. doi:10.15171/ijhpm.2020.05
4. Canas E, Shoemaker JK, Kothari A. [Promising points for intervention in re-imagining partnered research in health services](#). Int J Health Policy Manag. 2020; in press. doi:10.34172/ijhpm.2020.24
5. Bucknall TK, Hutchinson AM. [Cultivating value co-creation in health system research](#). Int J Health Policy Manag. 2020; in press. doi:10.34172/ijhpm.2020.35
6. Cassidy C, Bowen S, Fontaine G, Côté-Boileau E, Botting I. [How to work collaboratively within the health system: Workshop summary and facilitator reflection](#). Int J Health Policy Manag. 2020 June;9(6):233-239. doi:10.15171/ijhpm.2019.131.
7. Bowen S, Botting I, Graham ID, The Building and Managing Effective Partnerships in Canadian Health Research Research/Advisory Team. [Re-imagining health research partnership in a post-COVID world: a response to recent commentaries](#). Int J Health Policy Manag. 2020 May 12;x(x):1-3. doi:10.34172/ijhpm.2020.69
8. Jull J, King A, King M, Morton-Ninomiya M, Jacklin K, Moody-Corbett P, Moore J, Graham ID. [A Principled Approach to Research Conducted with Inuit, Métis and First Nations Peoples: promoting engagement inspired by the CIHR Guidelines Involving Aboriginal People](#). International Indigenous Policy Journal, 2020 May;11(2):1-30.
9. Hoekstra F, Mrklas KJ, Khan M, McKay RC, Vis-Dunbar M, Sibley KM, Nguyen T, Graham ID; SCI Guiding Principles Consensus Panel, Gainforth HL. [A review of reviews on principles, strategies, outcomes and impacts of research partnerships approaches: a first step in synthesising the research partnership literature](#). Health Res Policy Syst. 2020 May 25;18(1):51. doi: 10.1186/s12961-020-0544-9.
10. Nguyen T, Graham ID, Mrklas KJ, Bowen S, Cargo M, Estabrooks CA, Kothari A, Lavis J, Macaulay AC, MacLeod M, Phipps D, Ramsden VR, Renfrew MJ, Salsberg J, Wallerstein N. [How does integrated knowledge translation \(IKT\) compare to other collaborative research approaches to generating and translating knowledge? Learning from experts in the field](#). Health Res Policy Syst. 2020 Mar 30;18(1):35. doi: 10.1186/s12961-020-0539-6.
11. Boland L, Brosseau L, Caspar S, Graham ID, Hutchison AM, Kothari A, McNamara K, McInnes E, Angel M, Stacey D. [Reporting health research translation and impact in the curriculum vitae: a survey](#). Implementation Science Communications. 2020;1:20.
12. Zych MM, Berta WB, Gagliardi AR. [Conceptualising the initiation of researcher and research user partnerships: a meta-narrative review](#). Health Res Policy Syst. 2020 Feb 18;18(1):24. doi: 10.1186/s12961-020-0536-9.
13. Boland L, Kothari A, McCutcheon C, Graham ID; Integrated Knowledge Translation Research Network. [Building an integrated knowledge translation \(IKT\) evidence base: colloquium proceedings and research direction](#). Health Res Policy Syst. 2020 Jan 20;18(1):8. doi: 10.1186/s12961-019-0521-3.

14. Bowen S, Botting I, Graham ID, MacLeod M, Moissac D, Harlos K, Leduc B, Ulrich C, Knox J. [Experience of Health Leadership in Partnering With University-Based Researchers in Canada - A Call to "Re-imagine" Research.](#) Int J Health Policy Manag. 2019 Dec 1;8(12):684-699. doi: 10.15171/ijhpm.2019.66.
15. Sibbald SL, Kang H, Graham ID. [Collaborative health research partnerships: a survey of researcher and knowledge-user attitudes and perceptions.](#) Health Res Policy Syst. 2019 Nov 27;17(1):92. doi: 10.1186/s12961-019-0485-3.
16. Graham ID, McCutcheon C, Kothari A. [Exploring the frontiers of research co-production: the Integrated Knowledge Translation Research Network concept papers.](#) Health Res Policy Syst. 2019 Nov 25;17(1):88. doi: 10.1186/s12961-019-0501-7.
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18. Zych MM, Berta WB, Gagliardi AR. [Initiation is recognized as a fundamental early phase of integrated knowledge translation \(IKT\): qualitative interviews with researchers and research users in IKT partnerships.](#) BMC Health Serv Res. 2019 Oct 30;19(1):772. doi: 10.1186/s12913-019-4573-4.
19. de Moissac D, Bowen S, Botting I, Graham ID, MacLeod M, Harlos K, Songok CM, Bohémier M. [Evidence of commitment to research partnerships? Results of two web reviews.](#) Health Res Policy Syst. 2019 Jul 30;17(1):73. doi: 10.1186/s12961-019-0475-5.
20. Jull J, Köpke S, Boland L, Coulter A, Dunn S, Graham ID, Hutton B, Kasper J, Kienlin SM, Légaré F, Lewis KB, Lyddiatt A, Osaka W, Rader T, Rahn AC, Rutherford C, Smith M, Stacey D. [Decision coaching for people making healthcare decisions \(Protocol\).](#) Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews. 2019 Jul 29. Issue 7. Art. No.: CD013385. DOI: 10.1002/14651858.CD013385.
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2018 (n=10)

25. Rolfe DE, Ramsden VR, Banner D, Graham ID. [Using qualitative Health Research methods to improve patient and public involvement and engagement in research.](#) Res Involv Engagem. 2018 Dec 13;4:49. doi: 10.1186/s40900-018-0129-8.
26. Beckett K, Farr M, Kothari A, Wye L, le May A. [Embracing complexity and uncertainty to create impact: exploring the processes and transformative potential of co-produced research through development of a social impact model.](#) Health Res Policy Syst. 2018 Dec 11;16(1):118. doi: 10.1186/s12961-018-0375-0.
27. Hoekstra F, Mrklas KJ, Sibley KM, Nguyen T, Vis-Dunbar M, Neilson CJ, Crockett LK, Gainforth HL, Graham ID. [A review protocol on research partnerships: a Coordinated Multicenter Team approach.](#) Syst Rev. 2018 Nov 30;7(1):217. doi: 10.1186/s13643-018-0879-2.
28. Jull J, Morton-Ninomiya M, Compton I, Picard A. [Fostering the conduct of ethical and equitable research practices: the imperative for integrated knowledge translation in research conducted by and with indigenous community members.](#) Res Involv Engagem. 2018 Nov 26;4:45. doi: 10.1186/s40900-018-0131-1.
29. O'Brien MA, Carson A, Barbera L, Brouwers MC, Earle CC, Graham ID, Mittmann N, Grunfeld E. [Variable participation of knowledge users in cancer health services research: results of a multiple case study.](#) BMC Med Res Methodol. 2018 Nov 22;18(1):150. doi: 10.1186/s12874-018-0593-8.
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32. McLean RKD, Graham ID, Tetroe JM, Volmink JA. [Translating research into action: an international study of the role of research funders.](#) Health Res Policy Syst. 2018 May 24;16(1):44. doi: 10.1186/s12961-018-0316-y.
33. Gifford W, Thomas R, Barton G, Grandpierre V, Graham ID. ["Breaking the silence" to improve cancer survivorship care for First Nations Peoples: a study protocol for an Indigenous knowledge translation strategy.](#) International Journal of Qualitative Methods. 2018 May 3;17:1-6. doi: 10.1177/1609406918774133
34. Graham ID, Kothari A, McCutcheon C; Integrated Knowledge Translation Research Network Project Leads. [Moving knowledge into action for more effective practice, programmes and policy: protocol for a research programme on integrated knowledge translation.](#) Implement Sci. 2018 Feb 2;13(1):22. doi: 10.1186/s13012-017-0700-y.

2017 (n=3)

35. Jull J, Giles A, Graham ID. [Community-based participatory research and integrated knowledge translation: advancing the co-creation of knowledge](#). Implement Sci. 2017 Dec 19;12(1):150. doi: 10.1186/s13012-017-0696-3.
36. Kothari A, McCutcheon C, Graham ID. [Defining Integrated Knowledge Translation and Moving Forward: A Response to Recent Commentaries](#). Int J Health Policy Manag. 2017 May 1;6(5):299-300. doi: 10.15171/ijhpm.2017.15.
37. Bowen S, Botting I, Graham ID, Huebner LA. [Beyond "Two Cultures": Guidance for Establishing Effective Researcher/Health System Partnerships](#). Int J Health Policy Manag. 2017 Jan 1;6(1):27-42. doi: 10.15171/ijhpm.2016.71.

2016 (n=2)

38. Gagliardi AR, Kothari A, Graham ID. [Research agenda for integrated knowledge translation \(IKT\) in healthcare: what we know and do not yet know](#). J Epidemiol Community Health. 2017 Feb;71(2):105-106. doi: 10.1136/jech-2016-207743.
39. Rycroft-Malone J, Burton CR, Bucknall T, Graham ID, Hutchinson AM, Stacey D. [Collaboration and Co-Production of Knowledge in Healthcare: Opportunities and Challenges](#). Int J Health Policy Manag. 2016 Jan 28;5(4):221-3. doi: 10.15171/ijhpm.2016.08.

LIST OF VIDEOS



[You are not alone.](#) 2019.



[Experience of health leadership in partnering with university-based researchers in Canada.](#) 2019.



[Improving the quality of cancer symptom management using an integrated knowledge translation approach.](#) 2018.



[A conversation about partnering with health administrators for health research.](#) 2018.



[An introduction to the Integrated Knowledge Translation Research Network.](#) 2017.

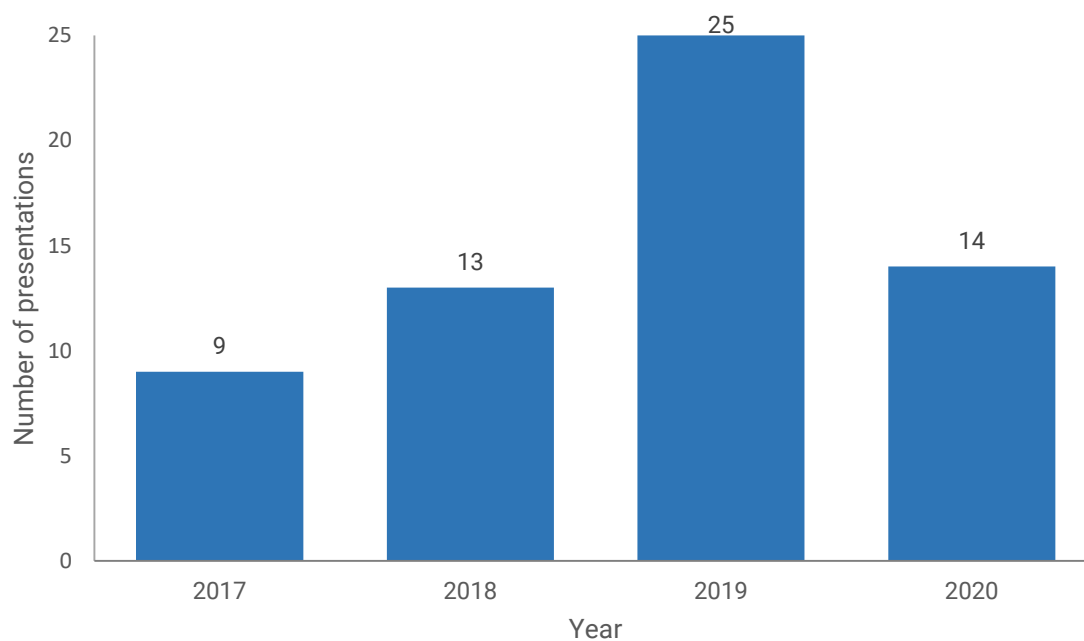
TABLE 7. Presentations resulting from IKTRN projects*

PRESENTATIONS	N
Presentations at international conferences**	34
Presentations at national conferences	27
TOTAL	61

**Presentations include those that have previously been given (since 2017) and those accepted.*

*** Includes presentations that were given at: (1) conferences outside of Canada; or (2) international conferences that took place in Canada.*

FIGURE 3. Presentations resulting from IKTRN projects by year



HOSTED EVENTS

DESCRIPTIONS OF EVENTS

IKTRN Launch and Planning Meeting 1

Date: May 9, 2016
Location: Toronto (in conjunction with the 2016 CAHSPR conference)
Attendees: 16
Goal: Meet with subsection of grant co-investigators to discuss implementation of the IKTRN, including a) governance structure; b) allocation of funds; c) recruitment and support of trainees; d) methods of communication; e) growing membership of the network; engaging knowledge users.

IKTRN Launch and Planning Meeting 2

Date: June 23, 2016
Location: Toronto (in conjunction with the 2016 KT Canada Symposium)
Attendees: 16
Goal: Same as above.

IKTRN Launch and Planning Meeting 3

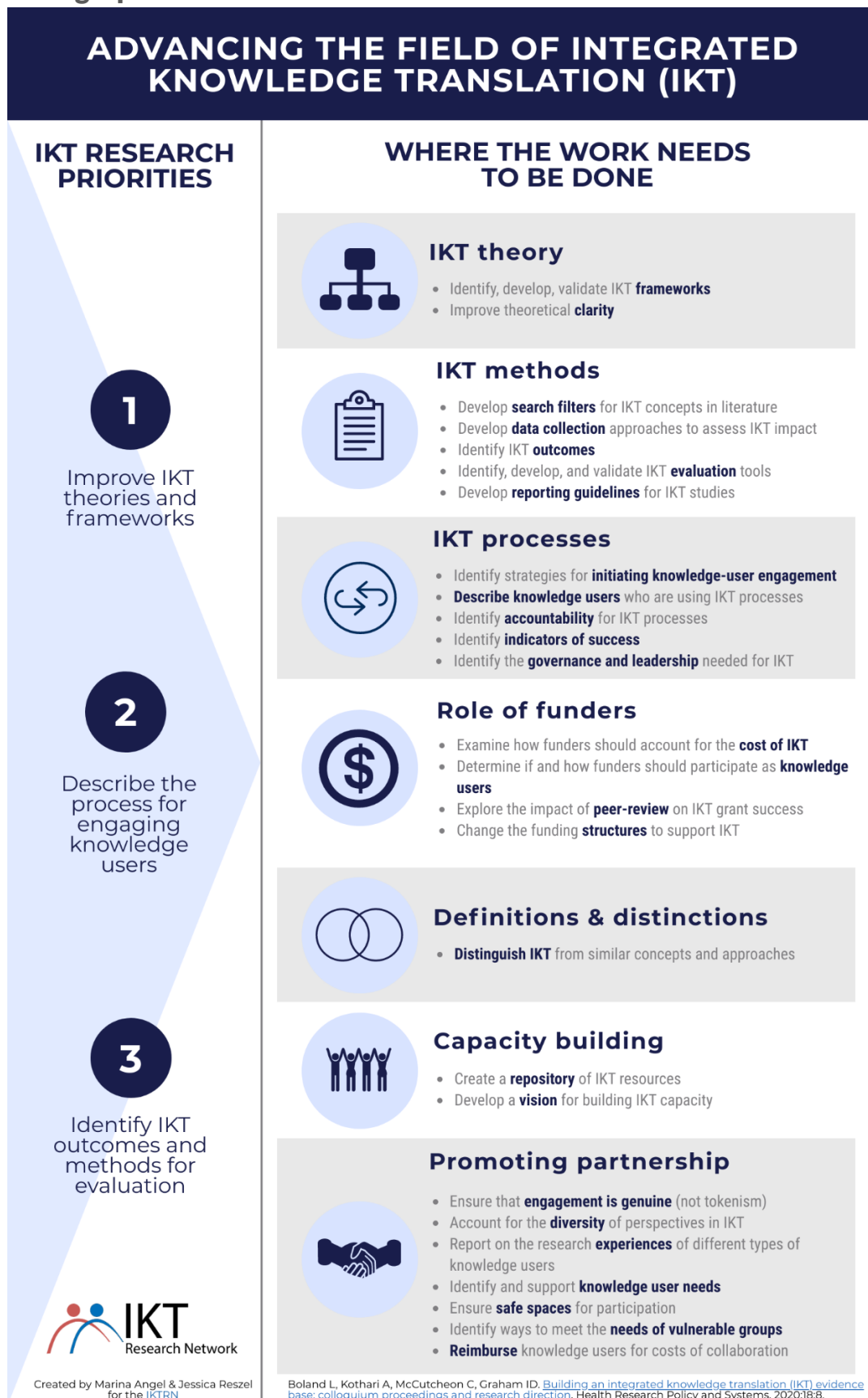
Date: June 29, 2016
Location: Llandudno, Wales (in conjunction with the 2016 Knowledge Utilisation Colloquium)
Attendees: 8
Goal: Same as above.

IKT State of the Science Colloquium

Date: October 29-30, 2018
Location: Ottawa
Attendees: 24
Goal: 1) Discuss implications of the IKTRN concept papers and 2) Identify priorities for research and development of the field of IKT.
Outputs:

- Colloquium proceedings: Laura Boland, Anita Kothari, Chris McCutcheon, Ian D Graham. Building an integrated knowledge translation (IKT) evidence base: colloquium proceedings and research direction. Health Research Policy and Systems. 2020; 18:8. <https://health-policy-systems.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s12961-019-0521-3>
- Infographic summarizing key the recommendations of the colloquium (next page).

FIGURE 4. Infographic



ADVISORY COMMITTEE FEEDBACK ON REPORT

On September 23, 2020, the Integrated Knowledge Translation Research Network (IKTRN) Advisory Committee met in an online conference call with the network's Executive Committee to discuss the 2020 Progress Report. The objectives of the meeting were to: i) complete a formative assessment of the IKTRN's progress; ii) identify areas where the IKTRN could improve; and iii) advise the IKTRN Executive Committee on the steps it should take to make improvements and better meet its goals.

This report presents the collective feedback of the Advisory Committee and its recommendations to the IKTRN Executive Committee.

Overall impressions of the IKTRN

The IKTRN is highly productive, and we, the Advisory Committee, are impressed with the work that has been done in the first half of its funding period. The IKTRN has become a thriving network that builds on Canadian and international strengths in integrated knowledge translation (IKT) research and practice.

We urge the IKTRN Executive Committee to look for more opportunities to increase the participation of knowledge users. This will be a challenge, but it will be worthwhile to increase their voice in the network and to create more products and services that benefit them directly. We note that the production of IKT tools is less developed than work in the other theme areas, and there is a substantial demand for resources that help researchers, trainees and knowledge users to initiate, manage and complete IKT projects. We laud the IKTRN casebook series, which will continue to provide insights into how IKT principles are applied in practice. We suggest that the IKTRN does something similar focused on its own research, collecting "impact stories" that promote the success of IKTRN researchers and document how they do IKT.

Assessment of outputs

We are very satisfied with the diversity and quality of IKTRN research projects, concept papers, casebooks and other products. These outputs reflect the high quality of the network members and the strong leadership of the IKTRN Executive Committee. The depth and breadth of the IKTRN membership is appropriate and impressive. The number of trainees leading or participating in IKTRN outputs indicates a strong commitment to capacity building.

We have several recommendations for the Executive Committee that we believe could help the IKTRN to leverage its high productivity to better meet its goals:

- Find more ways to engage the knowledge users in the network.
- Produce more IKT tools for knowledge users and researchers.
- Identify ways to broker relationships between knowledge users and researchers, particularly those knowledge users who find it difficult to meet researchers to collaborate with.

Assessment of capacity building

We are pleased to see the IKTRN's strong commitment to capacity building. In addition to funding research trainees, the network provides many opportunities to trainees to participate in major initiatives, including research projects. There is a similar level of commitment to improving the skills of early- and mid-career researchers, but the resources in this area are still in the development phase.

To build on this success, we recommend that the IKTRN Executive Committee consider the following strategies:

- Develop IKT training modules and investigate how continuing education credits (or other certification) can be received for completing them.
- Host a symposium for trainees, facilitating collaboration between trainees, researchers and knowledge users. Given the current pandemic, look at how multiple shorter events could be organized online for the same purpose.
- Track the careers of IKTRN trainees after they complete their formal academic training. Integrated knowledge translation creates a bridge between research and practice for many trainees, and they sometimes choose to take their research training into other fields of practice. It would be interesting to learn why some trainees pursue careers outside of academia.
- Ensure that all trainee members are equally engaged in the network.
- Explore targeted capacity building for different researchers and knowledge users, including clinician scientists, undergraduate students, funders and government employees.

Threat of COVID-19

In our view, COVID-19 poses a significant threat to research in general but especially the practice of collaborative research. As we are required not to meet in-person, it becomes more difficult to undertake the partnership activities that are fundamental to IKT projects. There could be a general reluctance to participate in or support IKT research.

Trainees and early- to mid-career researchers may be especially vulnerable. With so much funding focused on the pandemic, we expect there will be less funding available for other research projects. We recommend that the IKTRN shows leadership in the field by recommending feasible approaches to conducting IKT research under current conditions.

As we learn new ways to engage and partner during COVID-19, attention needs to be paid to how some research collaborators might be marginalized because they cannot participate virtually. As much as COVID-19 is a threat to partnered research, new ways of working could create new opportunities. For example, using online platforms could make it possible to increase engagement with knowledge users in rural and remote communities.

Developing the field of IKT research

While we agree that the needle has shifted, there is still some skepticism about the value of IKT research. This is an area where the IKTRN should lead. There is still a need to develop the business case for IKT, which of course must include evidence of impact. Similarly, there is a need to clarify the definition of IKT. Many people support IKT but tend to conflate it with simpler notions of engagement with stakeholders in research. Greater precision is needed on what the differences are between the two. Another area that would benefit from IKTRN attention is the development of standards for IKT research and reporting guidelines.

The IKTRN should look at how IKT is conducted among different communities of researchers and knowledge users. For example, there are cultural differences between IKT researchers in health services and policy research and those in clinical research. We encourage the IKTRN to explore how to bring these and other communities together. There is not enough discussion in the IKT field on how to collaborate with industry partners. Guidance is needed on how to find knowledge users in industry and how working with them is different from working with other knowledge users. This is an unexplored area that could become a productive opportunity for the IKTRN.

The IKTRN is already a recognized leader in the field of IKT, but it needs to try to increase its online presence. We suggest looking into techniques for optimizing search algorithms so that the IKTRN is synonymous with IKT on Google and other search engines. We would also like to see more activity on the IKTRN Twitter account.

Final remarks

In summary, we are very pleased with the IKTRN's progress and achievements and the effective leadership of the Executive Committee. We see no need for any course corrections at this time. Going forward, we consider the IKTRN to be well-positioned to focus on the "how to" piece of IKT including mapping out the role of leadership in IKT. We recommend that the Executive Committee consider the time left on the grant and identify the top three opportunities that could be strategically and feasibly exploited. We advise the Executive Committee to re-examine its four original goals in the near future and set new priorities as required.

Respectfully submitted,

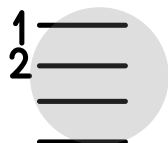
The IKTRN Advisory Committee

EXECUTIVE RESPONSE TO ADVISORY COMMITTEE

ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE RESPONSE

Priority Setting

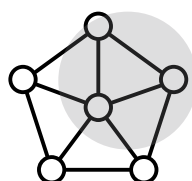


Re-examine the IKTRN's four goals and set new priorities based on the progress achieved so far.

Reflect on what the top three opportunities are that could be strategically and feasibly exploited.

We will write a strategic planning brief based on the suggestions of the Advisory Committee and the priorities that arose in the [IKT State of the Science Colloquium](#). This will be the basis of discussion with network members and we will subsequently go through a priority-setting exercise.

Engagement



Find more ways to engage the knowledge users in the network.

We will consult with the knowledge users in the network to learn how to better engage them.

Ensure that all trainee members are equally engaged in the network.

We will work with the IKTRN trainee committee to develop a plan to optimize the benefits of network membership for all trainees.

Increase the IKTRN's online presence.

We will increase cross-promotion of our products and online vehicles (e.g., via IKTRN blog, twitter, etc.).

We will explore algorithm optimization strategies to increase the visibility of the IKTRN web site.

Find ways to broker relationships between knowledge users and researchers.

We will further explore effective ways to broker relationships during our consultation with knowledge user members of the network.

Explore ways to engage with a broader range of knowledge users.

We will convene a meeting of members to discuss interest in and ways to reach out to new groups like industry and third sector organizations.

We will commission a concept paper on how to approach and work with diverse knowledge user groups such as racially diverse, marginalized, and rural and remote communities.

IKT Capacity Building



Explore targeted capacity building for different researchers and knowledge users, including clinician scientists, undergraduate students, funders and government employees.

Produce more IKT tools for knowledge users and researchers.

We will consider ways for targeted capacity building during our future priority setting exercise.

We have several initiatives that are under way, including:

- A handbook for health system leaders;
- A research co-production book, from which we will develop downloadable checklists; and
- A series of online IKT 101 modules tailored to knowledge users and researchers.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION	EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE RESPONSE
Collect “impact stories” that describe the success of IKTRN members and document how they do IKT.	We will develop a future volume of the IKTRN casebook series that focuses on IKTRN projects and their impacts.
Show leadership in the field by recommending feasible approaches to conducting IKT research under COVID-19 conditions.	<p>We will be publishing cases in our upcoming casebook on how IKT teams are responding to COVID-19.</p> <p>We will explore the possibility of launching a call for a future IKTRN casebook volume focused exclusively on IKT partnerships during COVID-19.</p> <p>The IKTRN trainee committee is currently consulting trainees on the impact of COVID-19 on their work and will summarize and share their findings.</p>

Trainees



Facilitate collaboration between trainees, researchers and knowledge users.	<p>We have multiple initiatives that are in development or nearing completion. For example, we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Call on our IKTRN members to notify us of opportunities for trainees in our next newsletter; • Prioritize inclusion of trainee members on new projects supported by the IKTRN; • As part of our consultation with knowledge users we will ask about how trainees can connect with them; and • Continue highlighting trainees in the newsletter and promoting them on our web site.
Host an online symposium for trainees.	<p>We are now offering regular online seminars for trainee network members.</p> <p>We have started discussions with the IKTRN trainee committee to identify and develop other online learning opportunities.</p>
Track the careers of IKTRN trainees after they complete their training.	We have already initiated routine reporting of network members. We will add information on the post-training careers of IKTRN trainees (and their rationale for choosing the selected career path).



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For more information, please visit: <https://iktrn.ohri.ca>