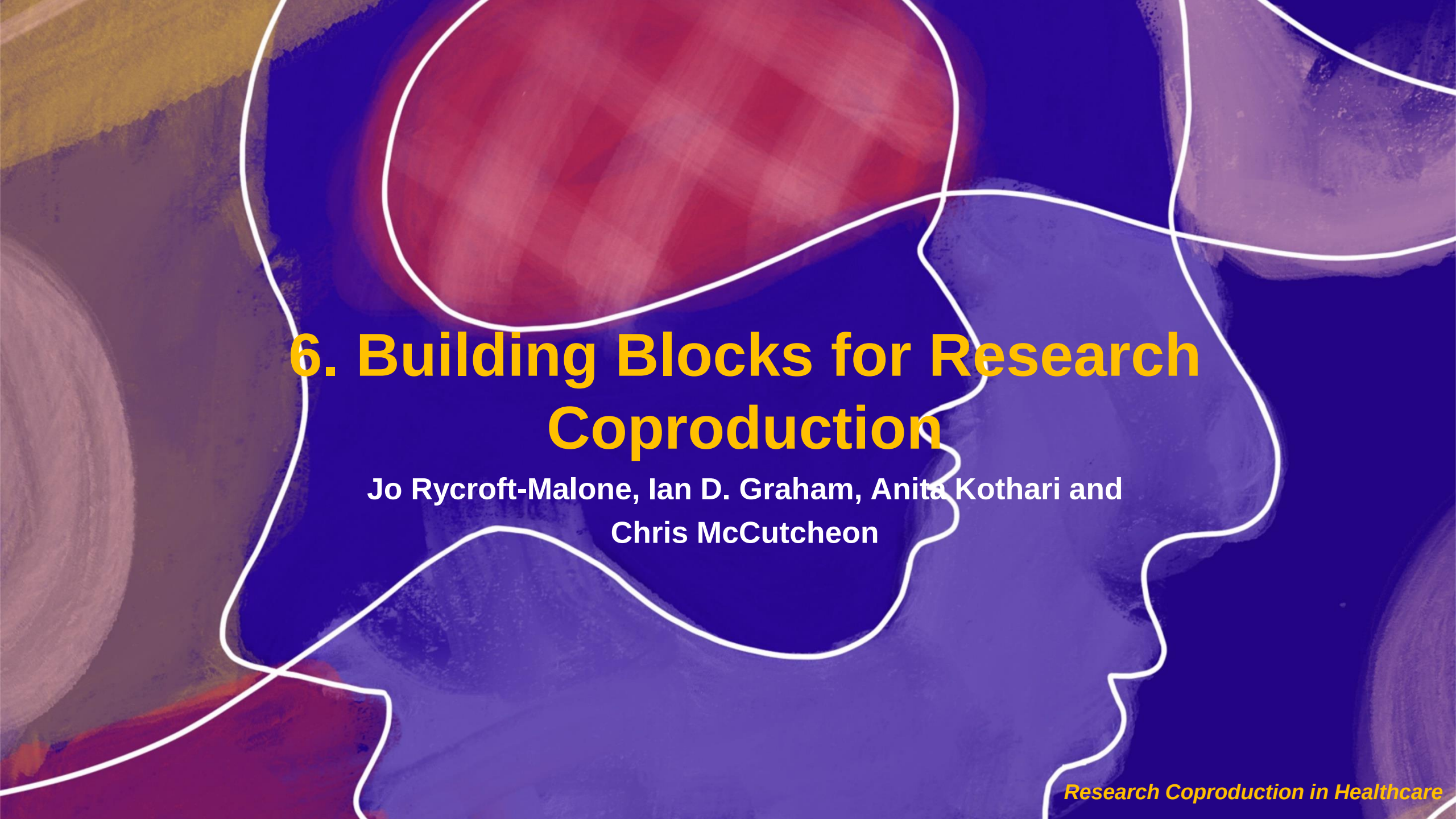




6. Building Blocks for Research Coproduction

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Overview

- Research coproduction is not a research method – it is a principles-based approach that can draw on multiple methods from different paradigms.
- As a values-driven approach to knowledge generation it is about *working with* rather than *engaging in*, which extends throughout the research lifecycle.
- There are some building blocks and key ingredients necessary for research coproduction, which as experience and evidence grows, will be refined and matured.

Key Ingredients for Research Coproduction

- An inclusive view of who the stakeholders might be, (a sub-set of whom become partners in research coproduction).
- A recognition that the role and contribution of different partners will be dynamic and change through the research life cycle.
- Partnership working framed around a set of principles, including clarity of roles and contributions that are agreed early through a deliberative process.

Key Ingredients for Research Coproduction

- The architectures or ways in which systems are organised and resourced facilitate power sharing, collaborative action and research coproduction.
- Programmatic approaches to funding including support for foundational activity such as relationship-building and training.
- Access to and use of a broad range of competencies that are research related, personal and relational.
- Built-in evaluation of research coproduction processes, mechanisms and impacts – what works, for whom and in what circumstances.

Key Learning Points

- Taking an authentic research coproduction approach requires significant consideration to and enactment of a collaborative research lifecycle and sustained investment in building and maintaining meaningful relationships.
- Establishing a research ecosystem that is sympathetic to research coproduction will require system changes to rewards and incentives, funding opportunities, ethics processes and in supporting capacity and capability development.
- Research coproduction is not a panacea: there are benefits and challenges to taking this approach, which need to be weighed up in judicious application.