

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR KNOWLEDGE TRANSLATION 2019–2024

The need for a **Strategic Framework to guide Women’s Health Research Knowledge Translation (KT)** is palpable. Patients, providers and policy makers are demanding better health outcomes and access to evidence-based health information, funding agencies mandate research evidence to have impact beyond conventional academic dissemination and researchers are eager to engage in and contribute to the evolving science of knowledge translation and implementation.

The **WHRI Strategic Framework for KT** will target growth and sustainability in five key areas: advancing KT science, building KT capacity, advocating for a culture of KT, managing KT projects, and funding KT¹. These strategic areas were chosen due to the alignment with one of our key KT partners, the Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research and also the natural configuration to highlight existing KT supports offered by the WHRI (Table 1).

DOMAINS	WHRI Commitment
ADVANCING KT SCIENCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connecting members to KT Science mentors and trainees; • Contribute to the scientific community (e.g. attending KT conferences, publishing KT papers); • Support the development, implementation, and evaluation of KT products (e.g. decision aids, apps, podcasts).
BUILDING KT CAPACITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing grant facilitation support for KT plans within general and KT funding opportunities; • Offering KT and Implementation Science training opportunities (e.g. Scientist KT and Implementation Science workshops); • Sharing KT tools and resources with women’s health research stakeholders; • Hosting events to accelerate the dissemination of evidence to knowledge users (e.g. BC Women’s Hospital Research Rounds, WHRI Symposium, Public Forums, and Workshops).
ADVOCATING FOR A CULTURE OF KT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communicating the value of KT and Implementation activities in reducing the evidence-to-practice gap, across stakeholder groups; • Advocating for academic recognition of KT activities (e.g. institutional reporting of KT metrics in various programs, contributing to CIHR most significant contributions, KT CVs); • Promoting KT activities via WHRI social media channels, website and newsletter; • Fostering Patient Oriented Research; • Requiring KT plans as part of any WHRI affiliated request for proposals or data access request (e.g. Catalyst Grant, PSBC).

MANAGING KT PROJECTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitating KT activities and events (e.g. barriers and facilitators assessments); • Brokering relationships between knowledge producers and knowledge user (e.g. researchers, point of care staff, patients).
FUNDING KT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to dedicated, KT trained, WHRI staff support for KT and Implementation, for members; • Direct funding of KT within Catalyst Grant competitions; • Member access to WHRI dissemination platforms (e.g. social media, website, newsletter and events).

Throughout the application of this framework women’s health research knowledge users will be engaged. Types of knowledge users will include but not be limited to: practitioners, policy makers, researchers, educators, patient and public partners, community partners, health care leaders and administrators, media outlets, and knowledge brokers.

The use of this framework will illuminate barriers and facilitators to mobilizing women’s health research KT in British Columbia at individual, project, and institute levels. The WHRI will be responsive in creating and evaluating strategies to overcome barriers and leverage facilitators within KT science, capacity, culture, management, and funding. This **Strategic Framework for KT** will position the WHRI as a KT leader and a critical KT enabler for women’s health research stakeholders.

¹Holmes B, Scarrow G, Schellenberg M. Translating evidence into practice: the role of health research funders. Implementation Science. 2012 Dec; 7(1):39.

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