



The Integrated Knowledge Translation Guiding
Principles for Conducting and Disseminating Spinal
Cord Injury (SCI) Research in Partnership

List of Research Partnership Strategies

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Rising the tide in spinal cord injury research

You can read the original research in Evidence & Policy: Hoekstra, F., SCI Guiding Principles Consensus Panel, Gainforth, H.L. (2021). Principles and related strategies for spinal cord injury research partnership approaches: a qualitative study. Evidence & Policy. DOI: 10.1332/174426421X16161715996124./

List of research partnership strategies

This list is constructed using the findings from the review of reviews, scoping review and interviews.

Strategies are defined as “observable actions designed to achieve an outcome”.

RECIPE Strategy Categories are:

1. **Resources and time** (i.e., strategies related to time and resources needed for the collaborative research activities).
2. **Engagement strategies in the research process** (i.e., strategies related to collaborative research activities).
3. **Communication activities and methods** (i.e., activities and methods to foster the communication between researchers and research users).
4. **Initiatives for collaborative meetings, conferences, and/or events** (i.e., strategies related to meetings between researchers and research users).
5. **Partnership initiation and representation** (i.e., strategies related to the initiation of the partnership and representation of research users).
6. **Education and training** (i.e., strategies related to training and education activities of partnership members).

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1. Resources and time

- 1.1 Remunerate research users / hire research users as part of the research team (e.g., graphic designer)
- 1.2 Offer financial support to research users
- 1.3 Allow flexible work hours for research users
- 1.4 Allow flexible handling of time schedules
- 1.5 Offer practical supports
- 1.6 Apply for funding for the collaborative research activities
- 1.7 Plan time and provide resources to support the collaborative research activities

2. Engagement strategies in the research process

- 2.1 Engage research users in the planning of research:
 - 2.1.1 Engage research users in grant writing / grant preparation
 - 2.1.2 Engage research users in identifying and/or prioritizing relevant topics for the research agenda / discussing potential research ideas
 - 2.1.3 Engage research users in selecting the research topic or identifying or refining the research question
 - 2.1.4 Engage research users in developing the study proposal or protocol/ co-author the research protocol
 - 2.1.5 Engage research users in assessing, developing or refining research instruments (e.g. questionnaires, interview guides)
 - 2.1.6 Engage research users in developing the informed consent and other participant information
- 2.2 Engage research users in conducting the research:
 - 2.2.1 Engage research users in recruiting participants
 - 2.2.2 Engage research users in collecting data
 - 2.2.3 Engage research users in conducting interviews or supervising focus groups/workshops
 - 2.2.4 Engage research users in reviewing the literature
 - 2.2.5 Engage research users in analyzing the data (e.g., coder in qualitative research)

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2.2.6 Engage research users in interpreting the findings / data interpretation

2.3 Engage research users in disseminating the research:

- 2.3.1 Engage research users in writing reports or scientific papers
- 2.3.2 Engage research users in knowledge translation (KT) activities (e.g. providing feedback on draft reports / KT summaries)
- 2.3.3 Engage research users in co-authoring outputs (e.g. a scientific paper, book chapter)
- 2.3.4 Engage research users in approving of publications or reports
- 2.3.5 Engage research users in advising, formulating and implementing action plans (dissemination plans)
- 2.3.6 Engage research users in developing key messages
- 2.3.7 Engage research users in developing practice and policy recommendations
- 2.3.8 Engage research users in translating scientific data into comprehensible research findings
- 2.3.9 Engage research users in communicating the findings / conference presentations
- 2.3.10 Engage research users in developing of tools and resources (e.g. websites)
- 2.3.11 Engage research users in establishing the future research agenda and/or identifying future research gaps

2.4 Monitor and evaluate collaborative research activities

3. Communication activities and methods

3.1 Foster the collaboration and communication processes

- 3.1.1 Include a knowledge broker or other facilitator to support the collaborative process (e.g. facilitate conversations)
- 3.1.2 Use different tools to ensure that research users understand and/or participate in everything (e.g. flipcharts, communication tools)
- 3.1.3 Read collection of autobiographical life stories
- 3.1.4 Provide opportunities for people to ask questions before meetings and/or provide pre-meeting information materials
- 3.1.5 Have continuous dialogue/ maintain communication

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3.1.6 Have meetings at times and location convenient for research users

3.1.7 Have informal meetings (to get to know each other)

3.1.8 Outline communication strategies at a first partnership meeting

3.2 Develop norms, rules and expectations

3.2.1 Develop and agree upon norms, rules and/or expectations

3.2.2 Define level of research users' commitment/ engagement (e.g. consultation, collaboration, patient- or public-directed)

3.2.3 Develop shared goals common mission

3.3 Communication methods (verbal, written, visual)

3.3.1 Have structured meetings (face-to-face, phone, conference calls)

3.3.2 Gather information via focus groups or workshops or brainstorm sessions with research users

3.3.3 Gather information via interviews or consultations

3.3.4 Gather information via surveys or email

3.3.5 Provide online platforms for interaction / web portal

3.3.6 Gather information via visual and/or active methods (e.g. photo voice)

3.3.7 Use consensus methods (e.g. nominal group techniques/ Delphi approaches)

3.3.8 Co-create a list of terms, terminology and definitions for the partnership project

3.3.9 Speak in a common language

4. Initiatives for collaborative meetings, conferences, and/or events

4.1 Hold meetings between researchers and research users

4.1.1 Hold informal meetings/ conversations

4.1.2 Hold (Team) meetings (face-to-face) and conference calls

4.1.3 Hold one-on-one meetings (phone, email or in-person)

4.2 Attend conferences for researchers and research users

4.2.1 Organize and/or attend collaborative conferences

4.3 Organize and/or attend events and activities for researchers and research users

4.3.1 Organize and/or attend speed research dating

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- 4.3.2 Organize and/or attend informational events, Café Scientifique
- 4.3.3 Organize and/or attend other collaborative events and activities

5. Partnership initiation and representation

- 5.1 Use of targeted strategy to identify/recruit research users (e.g. researcher send out an email about the research idea)
- 5.2 Recruit research user(s) and researchers via professionals' network or community network
- 5.3 Reach out to the community organizations/ Reach out and get involved into relevant communities
- 5.4 Select research users from different disciplines, sectors and backgrounds / establish a diverse team
- 5.5 Get input from diverse group of people with SCI / get input from research user of organizations and/or individuals who can represent a large group (e.g., therapist)

6. Education and training

- 6.1 Take part in training in skills to conduct research (e.g., motivational interviewing)
- 6.2 Take part in training in partnership skills
- 6.3 Take part in mentorship and training from supervisors/peers/colleagues
- 6.4 Educate each other
- 6.5 Educate and/or train research users in research methods (e.g. training in research ethics, interview techniques)
- 6.6 Educate and/or train researchers
- 6.7 Provide education and/or training opportunities on collaborative research for all partners (e.g. training in partnership principles and processes)