

What can public policy do to improve the translation of evidence into public health policy & practice?

Despite strong advocacy to close the 'research to practice gap', research evidence often doesn't get translated into public health policy and practice. We identified three main barriers:

1

Research evidence generally doesn't address the needs of practitioners and decision-makers.

2

Research findings often don't reach practitioners and decision-makers due to gaps in communication or dissemination.

3

Practitioners, decision-makers and organisations often lack capacity to adopt and apply research evidence.

To address these barriers, based on the best available evidence, we provide **public policy options** to improve the translation of evidence into public health policy & practice:



- Prioritise exploring the effectiveness of collaborative research (i.e. research that brings together researchers, practitioners, and decision-makers)



- Recognise the need for long-term commitment in collaborations between researchers, practitioners, and decision-makers - in funding schemes



- Support strategies that encourage researchers to communicate and disseminate research findings beyond academic publications



- Establish a national, interactive public health knowledge exchange portal with best available evidence for public health services and practitioners



- Provide training for public health practitioners and decision-makers in evidence-informed public health