

Knowledge Translation in ARIIA

Our Vision

Our mission in ARIIA is to grow the capability of the aged care sector to improve care through innovation. Increasing the ability of the aged care workforce to translate innovative ideas and research-based knowledge into everyday care delivery is central to achieving this mission.

Our approach to knowledge translation

In ARIIA we view Knowledge Translation (KT) as an engaged and dynamic process that involves active engagement with a wide range of aged care stakeholders who can inform, influence, and enact the translation of research evidence into aged care policy and practice.

Our principles align with the Canadian Institutes for Health Research definition of KT[1] as:

A dynamic and iterative process that includes synthesis, dissemination, exchange and ethically-sound application of knowledge to improve the health of [the population], provide more effective [care] services and products and strengthen the [aged] care system.

We acknowledge that KT occurs within complex systems and spans a range of activities from problem identification through to knowledge generation and synthesis, implementation, and evaluation. In turn, this requires collaboration with multiple stakeholder groups including older people, community members, aged care providers, education providers, researchers, governments, and industry (Kitson et al, 2018).[2]

ARIIA Knowledge Translation principles

We embrace a view of knowledge translation that is:

- Dynamic
- Non-linear
- Iterative
- Context-dependent
- Practical and pragmatic
- Dependent on collaboration and relationships & requires an engaged approach with stakeholders

Collaboration and authentic engagement with the aged care sector are central to each element of the KT process:

Problem identification

Engaging with relevant individuals and groups to fully understand the problem(s) and why it exists.

Knowledge generation

Working collaboratively and using approaches such as co-design to ensure

that the solutions developed address the identified problem(s) in a meaningful and relevant way.

Knowledge synthesis

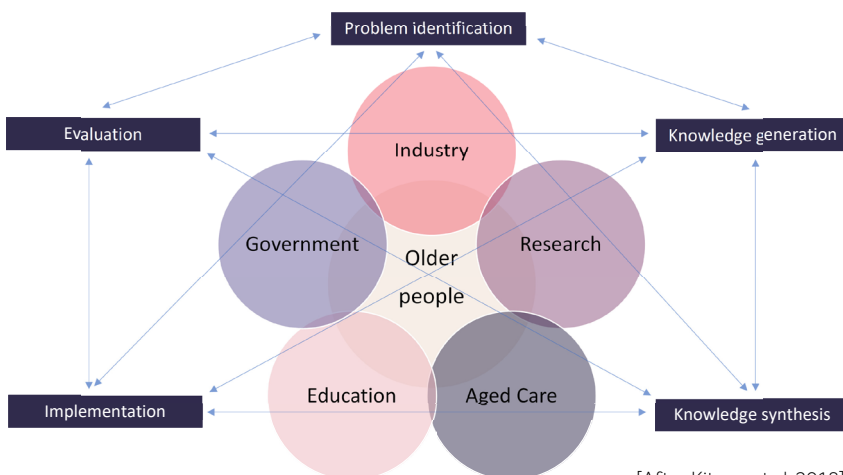
Engaging with intended knowledge users to develop quality knowledge products that present evidence in an accessible and usable format.

Implementation

Designing and applying implementation strategies that are targeted to the specific problem and context and actively engage with key individuals and groups that can enact and influence the change process.

Evaluation

Adopting evaluation approaches that address a broad range of outcome and impact measures, including, for example, acceptability, appropriateness, feasibility, experiences, and effectiveness.



[After Kitson et al, 2018]

Operationalising our KT principles in ARIIA

Whilst the processes of problem identification, knowledge generation and synthesis, implementation and evaluation are presented as discrete activities, in practice they occur iteratively, reflecting the dynamic nature of KT. This inter-connectedness between KT processes and key stakeholders underpins the design of ARIIA and the contributions of the Knowledge and Implementation Hub, the Innovator Training Program and Network, the Aged Care Partnering Program, and the Grants Program.

Evaluating our progress

Aligned with our understanding of KT as an iterative process, we will evaluate how well our KT approach works in an ongoing and formative way. This will include collecting feedback from participants in our different programs of activity, enabling us to adapt and improve our ways of working over time.

Knowledge and Implementation Hub	Innovator Training Program & Network	Aged Care Partnering Program	ARIIA Grants Program
<i>Knowledge synthesis Supporting implementation & evaluation</i>	<i>Problem identification, implementation, and evaluation</i>	<i>Knowledge generation, implementation, and evaluation</i>	<i>Problem identification, knowledge generation, implementation, and evaluation</i>
Co-designed evidence, tools, and practice resources in multiple formats Increasing access to quality, relevant and trustworthy evidence for the aged care sector	Developing aged care workforce translational knowledge and skills Facilitating the development of implementable local projects Creating a Community of Practice to support ongoing learning and knowledge exchange	Incubating evidence-informed solutions and innovative ideas into robust projects ready for implementation Building a collaboration of stakeholders and experts to co-design scalable innovations for the aged care sector	Project funding to support high-quality research studies that address important gaps in aged care workforce capability and knowledge and lead to relevant, translational research findings for the benefit of the sector

References

1. <https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/29418.html>
2. Kitson A, et al (2017) International Journal of Health Policy and Management, 7(3): 231-243.

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ARIIA was established as an independent, not-for-profit organisation, set up to lead the advancement of the aged care workforce capability by promoting and facilitating innovation and research to improve the quality of aged care for all Australians.

ariia Aged Care Research & Industry Innovation Australia

 Flinders University

 Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care