



Knowledge Translation at Canadian Virtual Hospice





Knowledge Translation at The Exchange

Coming Winter 2008

The Canadian Virtual Hospice is launching an accessible national online knowledge translation platform called the Exchange. The Exchange is a place for researchers, clinicians and other

This is an innovative and exciting approach that exemplifies Knowledge Translation as we think about it at Canadian Institutes of Health Research. I highly encourage palliative care researchers to take advantage of this opportunity as a way of sharing their findings and insights with colleagues, patients and families across Canada.

Dr. Ian Graham
Vice-President – Knowledge Translation
Canadian Institutes of Health Research

leaders in palliative care to share their findings and best practices with a diverse and growing audience of over 30,000 health providers, policy makers, and members of the public who visit www.virtualhospice.ca each month.

This new feature will be found at www.virtualhospice.ca, Canada's source for palliative care information and online support. Created by leaders in palliative care from across the country,

www.virtualhospice.ca has built a reputation for excellence through detailed, evidence-based information and by connecting individual Canadians with health experts in palliative care.

What is the purpose of The Exchange?

As a national platform facilitating knowledge translation in palliative care to a diverse audience, The Exchange:

- Enables the sharing of research results, clinical best practices and other advances
- Provides a central repository where Canadians and visitors from around the world can easily access the latest Canadian advances in palliative care
- Profiles researchers, clinicians and other leaders in the field
- Meets granting agency requirements for knowledge translation
- May contribute to further innovation and collaboration in palliative care, raising the bar in the provision of quality palliative and end-of-life care

Who can author an article?

- Palliative care researchers or clinicians who have insight or expertise to share
- Other leaders or professionals whose work makes a significant contribution to the field of palliative care. This may include program administrators, policy makers, ethicists, or volunteers.

What is the submission format?

- Typically consists of 1 to 3 pages of text
- If related to research, findings are less than 5 years old
- Begins with a fifty-word summary, identifying the main message or messages
- Uses headlines, bullets and tables to help communicate information
- Avoids acronyms
- Provides links to the author's affiliated organization (university, facility, NGO etc.)
- Provides short author biography and jpeg, gif or tif photo (colour preferable)
- Provides a few key references, if applicable
- Includes links to referenced material, if applicable
- May include small resolution photos and video clips less than 5 minutes in length
- Identifies funding agencies, if applicable

What is the online presentation format?

- Includes the author's name, photo and affiliated organization link and logo in a consistent location
- Provides a link to author biography in a consistent location
- Lists funding agencies in a consistent location
- Allows for printing and photocopying of information
- Allows articles to be viewed in html
- Includes an icon identifying target audience (Health care providers, the public, or both)
- Articles may be profiled on www.virtualhospice.ca home page or through other communications, including online newsletters.
- Includes the Canadian Virtual Hospice logo

What is the submission process?

- All submissions will be reviewed by a Canadian Virtual Hospice Editorial Team and may be edited for length and format. Articles will not be published without author approval of these changes
- Authors will be notified when submissions have been accepted or respectfully declined



The Exchange is part of an “innovation hub” to support advances in palliative and end-of-life care. The hub also includes Health Canada’s Researcher Portal and the PallNet collaborative tool.

Innovation
Information



Considerations before writing

Who is the audience?

The audience is diverse, spanning the spectrum from those who have made their careers in palliative care to those for whom palliative care is a new and personal experience.

Whenever possible, authors should present findings and information in plain language for a general audience. When you submit an article, you will have the opportunity to identify your intended audience: health care providers, the public or both.

If you intend to use your article to meet knowledge transfer requirements for a granting agency (e.g. the Canadian Institutes of Health Research), please ensure that your article includes contextual information outlining how your research fits within the existing body of knowledge within the field.

How will people use Exchange articles?

Families often print Canadian Virtual Hospice articles and share them with health care providers as a means of promoting informed discussion and decision making. Health care providers may use articles to enhance their practice and to share with colleagues, patients and family members. Articles may also encourage new research collaboration and innovation.

Is the message better suited to a Bulletin Board?

There may be times when you want to share information, but know you can express your message in a paragraph or two. In that case, you may want to make a posting on the Canadian Virtual Hospice Bulletin Board.

For more information or to submit an article, contact:

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