



National Collaborating Centre  
for Methods and Tools

Centre de collaboration nationale  
des méthodes et outils

# Newsletter

Spring • 2010 • Issue 7

## DialoguePH update: a lesson in active listening

Last year, NCCMT surveyed our network members. In September 2009 we shared the results of that online survey with DialoguePH membership. Since then, we have been working hard to respond to your suggestions and requests. We've been actively recruiting and are now at 580 members. What we need to do now is understand how it is people would like to participate or engage with other network members. That is no small task, so in the meantime, we are building on what we heard from you by working on the following initiatives:

### You asked for a member directory

The online DialoguePH member directory is available to those who have indicated in their profile that they would like to share their contact information with other network members. The directory is a great way to find colleagues who may be working in a similar content area and who may have information, evidence and expertise to share. Currently, 145 people are listed in the directory. If you are one of these people, you will see the button for the member directory in the top right navigation bar when you log in to the NCCMT website.

It's never too late to join. If you want to enjoy



**Pamela Forsyth, NCCMT's knowledge broker,  
administers the DialoguePH network**

the real benefits of network membership, why not join the directory? Simply upgrade your membership when you update your profile. Watch your e-mail for our regular reminders.

### You asked for regular communication ... but not too much

In the interest of saving your inbox, we send messages to the network only when we have information that is both timely and relevant. We try to limit our e-mails to once every two weeks. Since November 2009, our bi-weekly messages have alerted DialoguePH members to practical tips on searching for evidence efficiently,

## INSIDE

1

DialoguePH update:  
a lesson in active listening

2

Activities and Updates:

Translating knowledge translation  
NCCMT research associates

3

New Search Features on  
the NCCMT Website:

New Discussion Forum  
Topic on DialoguePH

4

The new reality – learning  
on a limited budget

The NCCMT is affiliated with Mc-  
Master University and funded  
by the Public Health Agency of  
Canada.

The views expressed herein  
do not necessarily represent  
the views of the Public Health  
Agency of Canada.

...2

## DialoguePH ... continued

as well as methods and tools, including “The Partnership Self-Assessment Tool” (Lasker, 2001) and the eight-step policy analysis tool (Colins, 2005). Check the NCCMT website for any messages you may have missed. If you’re not receiving your bi-weekly messages, let us know.

## You asked for discussion forums

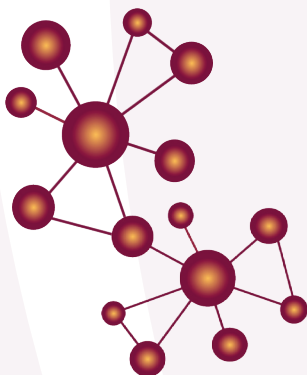
In October 2009 we created a number of discussion forums. The current topics and threads were identified by respondents to our February 2009 survey as priority issues. One of the most active topics, “The process of evidence-informed public health,” has a number of important threads, such as searching, appraising and adapting evidence. One forum participant requested an example that illustrates the steps of the EIPH process. The content for this particular illustration relates to a request from his/her Medical Officer of Health to identify the top five strategies the health unit should consider to reduce the spread of respiratory viruses. You might want to check it out!

## So where do we go from here?

With your participation we will continue to build a network that is relevant to public health professionals who are interested in moving evidence into practice. We are always looking for new ideas and feedback so be sure to drop by our new online poll to have your say.

If you’re not a member of DialoguePH and would like to join – it only takes a minute!

<http://www.nccmt.ca/account/register-eng.html>



## Activities and Updates:

### Translating knowledge translation

A paper co-authored by Donna Ciliska, Scientific Director of NCCMT, has been published on the Implementation Science website:

*A cross-sectional study of the number and frequency of terms used to refer to knowledge translation in a body of health literature in 2006: a Tower of Babel?*

This paper is open access, meaning you can access the full text article, free, from your computer, without needing to go through any library or subscription. You can access the paper at:

<http://www.implementationscience.com/content/5/1/16>

Did you see our recent feature article in the Ontario Health Promotion (OHP) E-bulletin?

Check it out here

<http://www.ohpe.ca/node/11221>

### NCCMT research associates

NCCMT is pleased to collaborate with independent researchers who share our interest in knowledge synthesis, translation and exchange in public health in Canada.

Currently, three research associates are engaged in activities and projects related to the vision and mission of the Centre:

Cristina Catalo

Susan Jack

Anita Kothari

You can find out more about our talented research associates on the NCCMT website:

<http://www.nccmt.ca/about/contact-eng.html>

sharing what works in public health

## New Search Features on the NCCMT Website:

### Finding our publications

NCCMT's publications and services are now easily searchable by title, keyword, publication date, publication type (fact sheet, report, paper, online resource, network, presentation) or topic (knowledge management, KT, EIDM, networking, foundational document).

Check out the new search options here:

<http://www.nccmt.ca/tools/publications-eng.html>

### Finding links to other organizations

A new "helpful links" section (accessible through the Additional Resources menu option) categorizes nearly 100 Canadian and international organizations whose main activities align with at least one of NCCMT's strategic directions. Users can refine their search to find organizations involved in or supporting knowledge translation, public health, networking, knowledge management, evidence-informed practice, or professional development.

Check it out here:

<http://www.nccmt.ca/resources/links-eng.html>

If you think we've missed anyone, please let us know!

<mailto:nccmt@mcmaster.ca>

## New Discussion Forum Topic on DialoguePH

Have you tried to use the Online Health Program Planner? Do you have questions? If so, you may be interested in the new topic on the DialoguePH discussion forum. The topic is simply called the Online Health Program Planner and the two threads within the topic are:

- Sharing Plans & Collaboration in Planning
- Getting Data In and Out.

Check it out! Feel free to post a question!

<http://www.nccmt.ca/forum/online-health-program-planner/1.html>



### We welcome your feedback.

Send your comments or questions to [nccmt@mcmaster.ca](mailto:nccmt@mcmaster.ca).

This newsletter is edited by Jeannie Mackintosh, communications coordinator for the NCCMT.

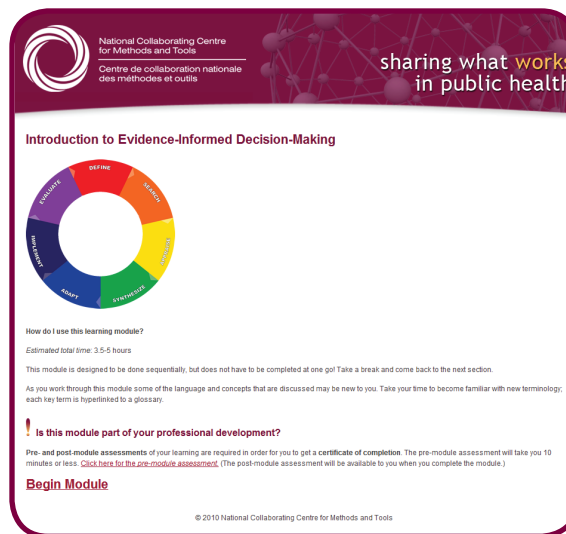
## The new reality – learning on a limited budget

NCCMT offers popular interactive EIPH workshops where participants practise finding and applying the best available research evidence in program planning and revision. So far, facilitators from NCCMT have presented the popular EIPH workshops to over 500 people across Canada, with more workshops planned in the coming months.

Of course, budget and time constraints in public health today mean that not everyone who wants to attend a workshop in person can do so. To address this very real problem, NCCMT has recently enhanced the EIPH section of our website <<http://www.nccmt.ca/eiph/index-eng.html>>. The section already included a dynamic representation of the EIPH steps and links to additional resources and background information. New this spring, NCCMT's website now offers a new web-based resource to support EIPH.

### New online learning module

Our self-paced online learning module on Evidence-Informed Decision Making in Public Health (the first of several) gives more in-depth training on how to implement EIPH using a realistic scenario as a model. Participants interested in professional development can take a pre- and post-module assessment to earn a certificate of completion. <<http://www.nccmt.ca/modules/index-eng.html>> The learning module provides a practical introduction for EIPH novices as well as a great refresher for past EIPH workshop participants who want to brush up on their skills or share the information with colleagues.



Opening screen shot from EIDM module



EIDM module uses realistic scenario as a model

Watch for a feature on our learning modules in the next NCCMT newsletter!

sharing what works in public health



National Collaborating Centre  
for Methods and Tools

Centre de collaboration nationale  
des méthodes et outils

McMaster University  
1685 Main Street West, Suite 302  
Hamilton, ON L8S 1G5

e-mail [nccmt@mcmaster.ca](mailto:nccmt@mcmaster.ca)  
web [www.nccmt.ca](http://www.nccmt.ca)  
phone (905) 525-9140 x. 20450