

# Partnership evaluation: The Partnership Self-Assessment Tool

## A summary of

Center for the Advancement of Collaborative Strategies in Health. (2002). Partnership self-assessment tool questionnaire. Retrieved from [https://atrium.lib.uoguelph.ca/xmlui/bitstream/handle/10214/3129/Partnership\\_Self-Assessment\\_Tool-Questionnaire\\_complete.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y](https://atrium.lib.uoguelph.ca/xmlui/bitstream/handle/10214/3129/Partnership_Self-Assessment_Tool-Questionnaire_complete.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y).



National Collaborating Centre  
for Methods and Tools  
Centre de collaboration nationale  
des méthodes et outils

## How to cite this NCCMT summary:

National Collaborating Centre for Methods and Tools (2008). *Partnership evaluation: The Partnership Self-Assessment Tool*. Hamilton, ON: McMaster University. (Updated 04 January, 2018) Retrieved from <https://www.nccmt.ca/resources/search/10>.

## Categories:

Tool, Evaluate, Partnership evaluation, Leadership

## Date posted:

October 16, 2008

## Date updated:

January 4, 2018

## Tool

### Relevance For Public Health

This partnership evaluation tool is useful for government, academic, non-for-profit and other community individuals and organizations that are involved in collaborations to advance public health initiatives. Improved partnerships allow health promotion activities to advance while capitalizing on the support and perspectives of different individuals and organizations, their corresponding skills and leverages across sectors and stakeholder groups, and the potential pooling of information technology, administrative or financial resources.

### Description

The Partnership Self-Assessment Tool is a questionnaire that various partners can complete to examine the strengths and weakness of the partnership. Answers can help guide organizations and individuals to make the partnership increasingly successful. The tool measures a key indicator of a successful collaborative process: synergy (partnership synergy).

### Implementing the Tool

#### Who is Involved?

The tool is designed for internal partnership evaluation, which means for use by and for the members of a partnership. The tool is not intended for use by an external evaluator. The partnership should include at least five active partners.

#### Steps for Using Tool

The tool is designed for the evaluation of internal partnerships only. The tool contains eleven themed sections with a number of questions within each, and a variety of response options.

1. Synergy (9 questions)
  - Questions related to the abilities of the partnership to set goals, problem-solve, etc.
2. Leadership (11 questions)
  - Formal or informal leadership, including questions about motivation, vision, conflict resolution, etc.
3. Efficiency (3 questions)
  - Questions related to the use of financial resources and time.
4. Administration and management (9 questions)
  - Questions about communications, meetings, agendas, etc.
5. Non-financial resources (6 questions)
  - Questions about skills, influence, credibility, etc.
6. Financial and other capital resources (3 questions)
  - Questions about money, space and equipment.
7. Decision making (3 questions)
  - Questions about the decision-making process in terms of comfort, support and inclusion.
8. Benefits of participation (11 questions)
  - Questions about receipt of benefits from the partnership in terms of impact, public profile, contributions, etc.
9. Drawbacks of participation (6 questions)
  - Questions about any drawbacks including time or resource diversion, conflicts of time, lack of work acknowledgements, etc.
10. Comparing benefits and drawbacks of participating in the partnership (1 question)
  - Question about whether the benefits of the partnership outweigh the drawbacks.
11. Satisfaction with participation (5 questions)
  - Questions about satisfaction regarding the people and organizations in the partnership working together, the plans of the partnership, your role in the partnership, etc.

The tool itself consists of 67 questions with different response options (e.g., poor to excellent, or “not well at all” to “extremely well,” or “none of the time” to “all of the time,” etc.).

The instructions for using the tool include the following:

- Pen and paper instrument
- Calculating results
- Reporting

Within the instructions document (Supplemental materials) there is a detailed description of the background information about the tool, including:

#### Part I: Overview of the Tool

- Why the tool is needed?
- How was the tool developed?
- What does the tool measure?
- What can the tool do for partnerships?

#### Part II: Guidelines for Using the Tool

- Is the tool right for my partnership?
- Who in the partnership should fill out the questionnaire?
- Managing the process

### Evaluation and Measurement Characteristics

#### Evaluation



Has been evaluated.

Has been evaluated. The Center for the Advancement of Collaborative Strategies in Health examined the factors involved in partnership synergy by involving 815 partnership participants in the United States, of which 63 partnerships were included. The design of the tool was then based on this extensive preliminary work in 2001. Study findings indicated that partnership synergy was related to leadership, efficiency, administration and management capacities, and sufficiency of

*These summaries are written by the NCCMT to condense and to provide an overview of the resources listed in the [Registry of Methods and Tools](#) and to give suggestions for their use in a public health context. For more information on individual methods and tools included in the review, please consult the authors/developers of the original resources.*

resources.

### Validity



Validity properties meet accepted standards.

Validity properties meet accepted standards. Instructions to maximize obtaining valid results are described in the instructions manual: "at least 65% response rate from questionnaires within a 30-day time period."

### Reliability



Reliability properties meet accepted standards.

To ensure the reliability of the data, the following partnership criteria apply:

- Has been in existence for at least six months.
- Consists of a group of people and organizations that have continually worked together to achieve goals.
- Has begun to take action to implement its plans.
- Has at least five active partners. To ensure the reliability of the data, at least five people should complete the questionnaire.

### Methodological Rating



Strong

## Tool Development

### Developers

The Center for the Advancement of Collaborative Strategies in Health

### Method of Development

This tool was developed based on factors identified to influence partnership synergy as part of the 2001 U.S. National Study of Partnership Functioning.

### Release Date

2002

### Contact Person

There is no longer any support for this tool.

## Resources

<b>Title of Primary Resource</b>	Partnership self-assessment tool questionnaire
<b>File Attachment</b>	None
<b>Web-link</b>	<a href="https://atrium.lib.uoguelph.ca/xmlui/bitstream/handle/10214/3129/Partnership_Self-Assessment_Tool-Questionnaire_complete.pdf?sequence=1&amp;isAllowed=y">https://atrium.lib.uoguelph.ca/xmlui/bitstream/handle/10214/3129/Partnership_Self-Assessment_Tool-Questionnaire_complete.pdf?sequence=1&amp;isAllowed=y</a>
<b>Reference</b>	Center for the Advancement of Collaborative Strategies in Health. (2002). Partnership self-assessment tool questionnaire. Retrieved from <a href="https://atrium.lib.uoguelph.ca/xmlui/bitstream/handle/10214/3129/Partnership_Self-Assessment_Tool-Questionnaire_complete.pdf?sequence=1&amp;isAllowed=y">https://atrium.lib.uoguelph.ca/xmlui/bitstream/handle/10214/3129/Partnership_Self-Assessment_Tool-Questionnaire_complete.pdf?sequence=1&amp;isAllowed=y</a> .
<b>Type of Material</b>	Tool - Data collection
<b>Format</b>	On-line Access
<b>Cost to Access</b>	None.
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Conditions for Use</b>	© Center for the Advancement of Collaborative Strategies in Health

<b>Title of Supplementary Resource</b>	Partnership self-assessment tool: Instructions for using the tool offline
<b>File Attachment</b>	None
<b>Web-link</b>	<a href="http://www.imgforhealth.org/sites/default/files/Center_for_the_Advancement_of_Collaborative_Strategies_in_Health_%28CACSH%29_Partnership_Self-Assessments.pdf">http://www.imgforhealth.org/sites/default/files/Center_for_the_Advancement_of_Collaborative_Strategies_in_Health_%28CACSH%29_Partnership_Self-Assessments.pdf</a>
<b>Reference</b>	Center for the Advancement of Collaborative Strategies in Health. (2002). Partnership self-assessment tool: Instructions for using the tool offline. Retrieved from <a href="http://www.imgforhealth.org/sites/default/files/Center_for_the_Advancement_of_Collaborative_Strategies_in_Health_%28CACSH%29_Partnership_Self-Assessments.pdf">http://www.imgforhealth.org/sites/default/files/Center_for_the_Advancement_of_Collaborative_Strategies_in_Health_%28CACSH%29_Partnership_Self-Assessments.pdf</a> .
<b>Type of Material</b>	Document
<b>Format</b>	On-line Access
<b>Cost to Access</b>	None.
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Conditions for Use</b>	© Center for the Advancement of Collaborative Strategies in Health

<b>Title of Supplementary Resource</b>	Partnership synergy: A practical framework for studying and strengthening the collaborative advantage
<b>File Attachment</b>	None
<b>Web-link</b>	<a href="https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2751192/pdf/milq_203.pdf">https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2751192/pdf/milq_203.pdf</a>
<b>Reference</b>	Lasker, R. Weiss, E., & Miller, R. (2001). Partnership synergy: A practical framework for studying and strengthening the collaborative advantage. <i>The Milbank Quarterly</i> , 79 (2), 179-205.
<b>Type of Material</b>	Journal
<b>Format</b>	Periodical
<b>Cost to Access</b>	None.
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Conditions for Use</b>	None

These summaries are written by the [NCCMT](#) to condense and to provide an overview of the resources listed in the [Registry of Methods and Tools](#) and to give suggestions for their use in a public health context. For more information on individual methods and tools included in the review, please consult the authors/developers of the original resources.

---

*These summaries are written by the [NCCMT](#) to condense and to provide an overview of the resources listed in the [Registry of Methods and Tools](#) and to give suggestions for their use in a public health context. For more information on individual methods and tools included in the review, please consult the authors/developers of the original resources.*