Frontiers in Public Health Services and Systems Research: Accelerating and Expanding Knowledge Transfer in Public Health Settings

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Accelerating and Expanding Knowledge Transfer
in Public Health Settings:

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Toward a “rapid-learning system” in public health

Why bring the “open-science” movement to public health?

- Data and information are perishable
- Policy windows don’t respect research timelines
- Subscription fees are barriers for practice settings
- Limited venues for research-practice exchange
- Preliminary findings stimulate collaboration and reveal promising next steps
A continuum of interpretation, dissemination, and application mechanisms

Informal discussion
Working papers
Conference meetings & presentations

Peer-reviewed preliminary publications
Peer-reviewed final scientific publications
Evidence syntheses
Policy and practice guidelines
Decision support applications

Blogs & new media

Media coverage
Why peer-reviewed publication?

- Credibility with stakeholders
- Continuous improvement in science
- Filtering mechanism for information users
- Persistent availability to facilitate knowledge accumulation, spread and synthesis
- Academic incentives
The Frontiers Model

- Brief publications
- Preliminary findings from new or ongoing studies
- Inclusion of QI projects alongside traditional studies
- Focus on implications for practice, policy, and/or research communities
The Frontiers Model

- Commentaries from policy and practice stakeholders
- Partnerships with traditional scientific publications
  - American Journal of Preventive Medicine
  - Annual Review of Public Health
Frontiers: overarching principles

- Innovation
- Timeliness
- Quality
- Multi-disciplinary
- Accessibility
- Parsimony
- Utility
Making open-science work

- Do-it-yourself editing and proofing
- Fast and furious peer review
- Clarity in findings and implications
- Tolerance for preliminary findings & uncertainty
For More Information

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