



Engaging in research...where to begin?

Foundational Standard Launch
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Key messages

- Know your research (and evaluation) questions
- Link with potential partners
- Leverage opportunities
- Start small...it will grow
- Enjoy the benefits



Know your research questions

- What do you need to know about your community, your clients, your programs and services to be a more informed practitioner/decision-maker?
- Systematic process for identifying questions
- Has the question been answered elsewhere?



Link with potential partners

○ Who?

- Other Health Units
- Academic and research centres
- Research networks
- Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion
- Ministries
- Other organizations



Link with potential partners

- Discuss as early as possible:
 - Research question(s)
 - Team member skill sets/experiences
 - Roles and responsibilities
 - Resources (including time)
 - Authorship, intellectual property, research ethics
 - Respective organization's parameters and expectations



Link with potential partners

- HUs are valuable research partners and provide access to:
 - Relevant questions
 - Research participants
 - Data, including large databases
 - Meaningful and grounded implications
 - Community partnerships



Leverage opportunities

- Save a collection of research questions for the right 'time'
- Keep contact with potential partners
- Join networks, professional organizations
- Visit funding agency websites regularly
- Receive the PHRED funding opportunities email*



Start small – it will grow

- Be strategic
- Does not have to require a large amount of time
- Involve as many relevant and interested HU managers and staff as possible
- Share your successes widely



Enjoy the benefits

- A culture that supports people to increasingly seek and apply evidence
- Staff recruitment and retention
- More effective practice and decision-making – improved programs and services



Thank you!

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