

## **Research translation: engage decision-makers at the beginning, middle, or end?**

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### **Background**

Researchers in the majority, work within a model of co-creation with other researchers to facilitate robust research, and translation of evidence-based research outcomes into policy and practice. Research aimed at improving the lives of people living with dementia and associated functional decline and their carers would normally be no different. However, as a partnership between researchers, clinicians, aged-care providers, and consumers, the Partnership Centre on Dealing with Dementia and Related Functional Decline in Older People at the University of Sydney (Cognitive Decline Partnership Centre or CDPC) is an example of an extended co-creation model applying different methodologies for research translation.

### **Objectives**

The CDPC's mission is to develop and communicate research to improve the care of people with dementia, therefore successful translation of research outcomes leading to changed policy, systems and practice has been a major focus.

### **Method**

CDPC funded research teams have approached the challenge of encouraging translation of evidence-based research outputs into policy and practice through engaging with end-users at different timepoints in the research process.

### **Results**

Some research teams have aimed to maximise translation and impact of research outcomes through embedding multi-sectorial partners within their project from the beginning. Others have addressed the challenge of bringing their research to the attention of decision-makers and policy-makers later in the research process. Multiple models of communication, to facilitate evidence-based translation, have potential for success, however each model comes with different challenges.