The F-words in Childhood Disability: Embracing Opportunities for Knowledge Translation

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Background

• In 2012, CanChild researchers published: “The ‘F-words’ in childhood disability: I swear this is how we should think!”

• Building on the WHO’s International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF) framework, the article featured key strengths-based ICF themes – Function, Family, Fitness, Fun, Friends, and Future.

Objectives

• This poster reports how the Diffusion of Innovation (DOI) theory has been used in the knowledge translation (KT) journey we have been on to move the F-words ideas into practice.

DOI Theory

• Aims to explain how and why an innovation (or an idea) is adopted.

• It identifies four key factors that influence the adoption process: time, social networks, communication channels and the innovation itself.

Results

- Article downloaded 6,395 times (September 2011 – January 2016)
- Video Evaluation (137 respondents):
  • 55% had not previously heard of the ‘F-words’
  • 88% indicated they would share the video
  • 93% wanted to learn more about the ‘F-words’
  • 98% ‘extremely liked’/’liked’ the ideas

Discussion

The DOI theory lists five key characteristics of an innovation: relative advantage, compatibility, complexity, triability, and observability. We agree that each factor is important for innovation uptake.

Knowledge translation is a process that takes time and commitment. Be patient and persistent.

Conclusions

• Partnership is a key component to effective knowledge translation.

• It is important to take the time to build partnerships and foster opportunities for engagement.

• Moving forward we hope to continue to foster our current relationships and build new opportunities for knowledge brokering.

• Our next step is to evaluate the impact of an online F-words Knowledge Hub for families and service providers.

Acknowledgements

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For more information:

• Please visit CanChild’s F-words in Childhood Disability Knowledge Hub: