

# Mechanisms for knowledge exchange for health and social care policy: learning from different international contexts



Image Source: NIHR Funded Connecting People Study, UCLAN, University York, Kings College, London

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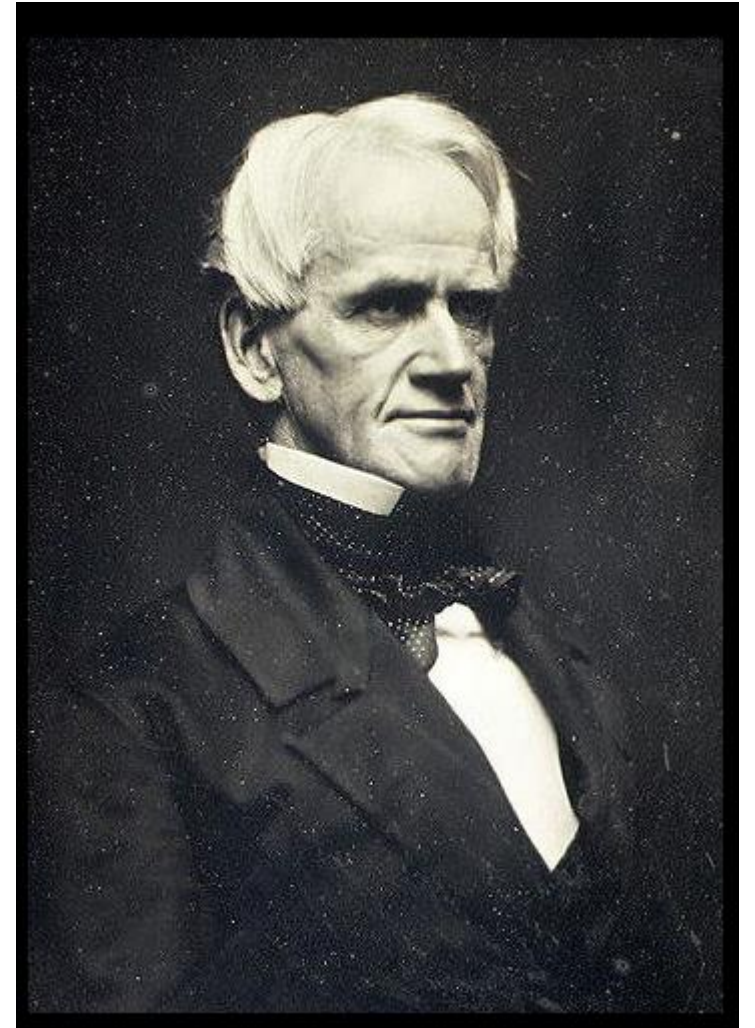
E-mail: [d.mcdaid@lse.ac.uk](mailto:d.mcdaid@lse.ac.uk)

# The value of knowledge

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“Every addition to human knowledge is an addition to true power”

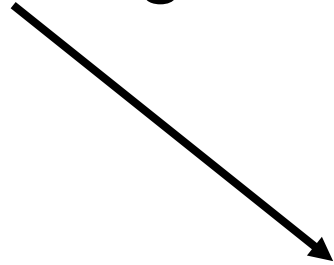
Horace Mann, 1841



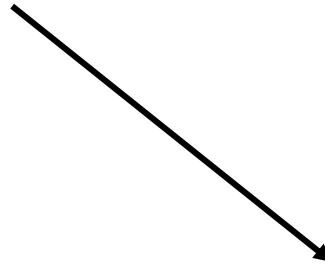
# In an ideal world

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New Knowledge

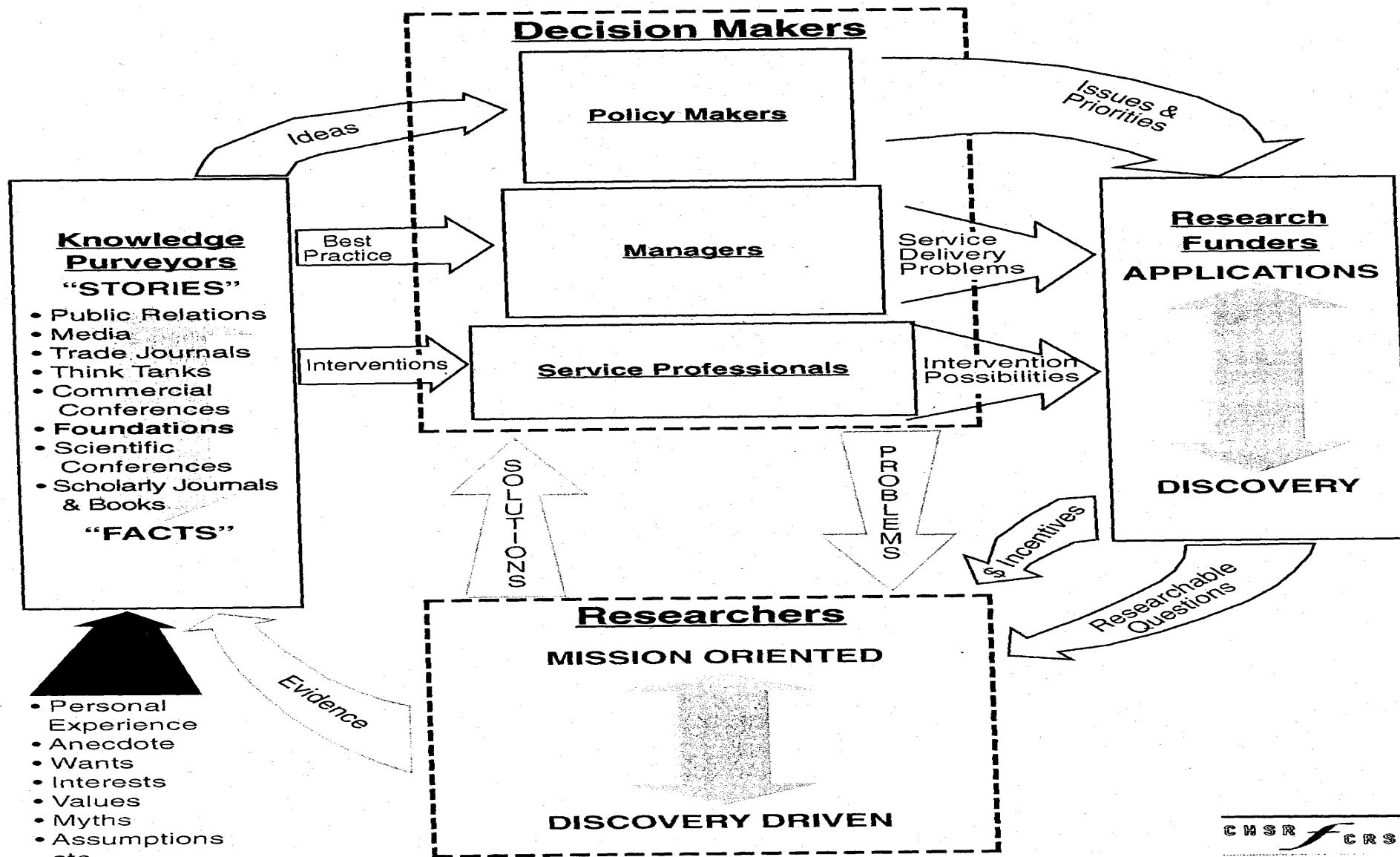


Policy Makers



Policy Change

# EVIDENCE-BASED DECISION MAKING



*The Influence of Knowledge Purveyors*

# The danger of a lack of knowledge exchange

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# Historically poor connections

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- Systematic review of decision makers perceptions on use of evidence (Innvaer et al 2002) (including econ evidence)
- 24 studies met criteria
- Identified a range of facilitators and barriers to the use of evidence
- ‘Two-communities thesis’

# Getting research into the evidence chain (Campbell et al, 2007)



# Challenges to knowledge exchange

- Information is not communicated effectively
- Information is not available in the right format
- Information is not available at the right time
- Policy makers and others lack receptor capacity to interpret / assess strengths weakness
- Lack of opportunities for dialogue between policy makers and knowledge producers



# Challenges re long term care

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- Responsibility may be fragmented across ministries
- Responsibility may be fragmented across and different tiers of government
- May not be seen as an immediate policy priority in some jurisdictions where family seen as primary carer
- Restricted means of engaging with policy makers in some contexts: politicised civil service

# Knowledge Broking Structures

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- Include specialist professionals info exchange
- Skills both in policy and research worlds
- Knowledge brokers to help build receptor capacity
- Can be individuals or organisations:
  - Long Term Care Tsar; Key Policy Advisor
  - Personal Social Services Research Unit
  - School for Social Care Research
  - Potential role for networks as well
- Can also act as clearing houses for information
- Useful where country specific capacity low



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### BRIDGE series

#### BRIDGE knowledge for health

The BRIDGE policy brief and summary series generated from a Coordination and Support Action project funded under the 7th Framework Program of DG Research.

Aim of the BRIDGE-project (Brokering knowledge and Research Information to support the Development and Governance of health systems in Europe), led by the Observatory, was to map existing initiatives, mechanisms and practices of knowledge brokering for health policy making and identify what we know about their effectiveness in bridging the gap between policy makers and the information and research being generated.

**Disclaimer:** The research leading to these results has received funding from the European Community's Seventh Framework Programme (FP7/2007-2013) under grant agreement n°223473. Sole responsibility lies with the authors and the European Commission is not responsible for any use that may be made of the information contained therein.

- ▶ How can knowledge brokering be advanced in a country's health system?  
OBS policy brief 17 (BRIDGE series) (2013)
- ▶ How can knowledge brokering be better supported across



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# BRIDGE

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*Brokering knowledge and Research Information to support the Development and Governance of health systems in Europe*

- Systematic review on what influences health research in policy making
- Assessment of 398 knowledge brokering organisations in 31 countries
- Website review of 163 organisations
- Eligible organisations had to put outputs into the public domain
- 28 Visits, 4 Case studies, Data collected between 2009 and 2013

# Assessing knowledge interaction mechanisms

Criteria	Types of interactive knowledge-sharing mechanism							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
What it covers								
1. addresses a topical/relevant issue		X		X	X		X	X
2. addresses the many features of an issue						X	X	X
What it includes								
3. focuses in part on tacit knowledge, views and experiences				X	X	X		X
4. considers in part a body of health systems information						X	X	X
How it's targeted								
5. targets policy-makers and stakeholders		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
6. is timed to relate to a policy-making process or to requests					X		X	X
How it's organized								
7. involves targeted invitations, interaction and attribution rule								
8. involves the pre-circulation of information products								
9. each participant has the potential to contribute								
How its use is supported								
10. captures insights through products based on interactions								
11. brings these products to attention through e-mail alerts/listservs								

1. presentations describing evidence from a single study;
2. informal discussions;
3. networks;
4. online discussion forums;
5. online briefings/webinars;
6. training workshops;
7. personalized briefings; and
8. policy dialogues.

# BRIDGE: Examples of interactive knowledge sharing

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- **online discussion forum:** offers policy-makers and stakeholders an opportunity to interact (but not in real time) with researchers and knowledge brokers;
- **online briefing or webinar:** involves a web-based presentation by a researcher or knowledge broker where policy-makers and stakeholders can interact in real time about issues raised in the presentation;
- **training workshop:** aims to help policy-makers and stakeholders enhance their skills in finding and using health systems information;
- **personalized briefing:** provides policy-makers and stakeholders with a formal in-person presentation and discussion of health systems information on an issue that they have prioritized and framed; and
- **policy dialogue:** convenes policy-makers, stakeholders and researchers to deliberate about a policy issue, and is ideally informed by a pre-circulated brief and organized to allow for a full airing of participants' tacit knowledge and real-world views and experiences.

# Online discussion forums

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ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL POLICIES, PUBLICATIONS

### Financing and providing long-term care: The challenge of an ageing population

POSTED BY EP LIBRARY - JUNE 21, 2013 - 2 COMMENTS

**FILED UNDER** COMMON HEALTH POLICY, CONSUMERS AND PUBLIC HEALTH, EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS, EPRS BRIEFINGS, HEALTH, HEALTH CARDS, HEALTH LEGISLATION, LONG-TERM CARE, PUBLIC HEALTH, SOCIAL SECURITY, SOCIAL SERVICES OF GENERAL INTEREST

Older people are not the only people in need of long-term care (LTC), but in terms of numbers, they represent the greatest need. As more people live longer, the demand for LTC in Europe is expected to increase significantly. Paying for and providing quality care will be important challenges as the proportion of the population over 80 years old more than doubles in the EU over the next 50 years.

In the European Union, Member States have different models for providing LTC. However all are committed to universal access and the provision of high quality LTC. Each of them faces many similar challenges in financing and providing equitable access to LTC.

Making use of informal care, favouring home-based over institutional care where possible, and ensuring adequate numbers of qualified care-givers are all significant challenges. Prevention and rehabilitation programmes, the use of information and communication technologies, and better services



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# Praxis blog

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- Addresses topical/relevant issue
- Targets policymakers and stakeholders
- Captures insights through interactions
- Brings products to attention through listserves
- But...do not address issues systematically
- Not timed to relate to policy making process
- Does not involve targeted invitations
- Does not involve pre-circulation of info products (e.g. launch of a new topic)



# Webinars

## Government plans for integrated care pioneers scheme

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About this webinar

Date: 14 May 2013

Event type: On-demand webinar

### About this event

In this on-demand webinar Norman Lamb MP, Minister for Care and Support, leads a discussion on national partners' commitment to integrated care and support. He also shares plans for the creation of several pioneer areas to support the delivery of integrated care at scale and pace by encouraging local innovation and experimentation.

He is joined by a panel of leading health and care organisations:

- Carolyn Downs, Chief Executive, Local Government Association
- Jon Rouse, Director General for Social Care, Local Government and Care Partnerships, Department of Health
- Toby Lambert, Policy Director, Monitor
- Jeremy Taylor, Chief Executive, National Voices
- Linda Sanders, Vice President, Association of Directors of Adult Social Services
- Bill McCarthy, National Director, Policy, NHS England



### Related link:

[Integrated care Reading Room](#)

### More on:

[Integrated care](#)

[NHS reform](#)

### Related event:

[Integrated care summit 2012](#)

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# Webinars: King's Fund

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- Timed to be topical and policy relevant
- Specifically targets policymakers & stakeholders
- Captures insights through interactions
- Well publicised through social media
- Available after event
- But.....
- Online interaction in real time still limited but developing
- May not consider all policy relevant issues in systematic way

# Training workshops



What do we do?

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- Health Economics
- International Health
- Cancer
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- Quality Measurement
- Remedy
- Medical Technology
- > Training programs
- Organization
- Patient Safety and security
- Primary health

## Theme: Training programs

We offer [RSS feed](#) for this topic.

You are here: [Frontpage](#) » [Topic: Training programs](#)

Here are summarized research on the effect of different training, ongoing projects in the Knowledge Centre about this and more. Knowledge Centre conferences, courses and seminars can be found here: <http://www.kunnskapsenteret.no/Kurs+og+konferanser>

[SØK I TEMA](#)

### Publications (30)

- 2013 [Workplace-based interventions for mental health of employees](#)
- 2012 [Effects of organized follow-on behaviors that increase the risk of disease in adults](#)
- 2012 [Knowledge Centre and TKO collaborate more clinical research](#)
- 2012 [Group-based parent training courses gives positive short-term effects](#)
- 2012 [Family and community-based interventions for children and adolescents with behavioral problems](#)

[\[ read the rest \]](#)

### News (26)

- 20.08.2013 [Measures in the workplace may prevent anxiety](#)
- 17/12/2012 [Inadequate documentation of team-based multidisciplinary rehabilitation in arthritis](#)
- 20/09/2012 [Positive long-term effects of substance abuse](#)

### Tools (6)

- [Online Courses in evidence-based practice](#)
- [Role as improvement tools](#)
- [Checklists for evaluating research articles](#)
- [Here we summarize research](#)
- [Glossary of Research Summary](#)

[\[ read the rest \]](#)

### Project (8)

- [Attention training and stress management for medical and psychology students](#)
- [Educational meetings and workshops: effects on professional practice and health care outcomes](#)

# Training workshops

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- Can address topical/relevant issue
- Can be targeted at policymakers and stakeholders
- Offers each person a chance to contribute
- But often not linked to policy process
- Does not captures insights through products based on interactions

# Personalised briefings: THL, Finland

- Briefings prepared for Finnish Parliament on topical issues
- Specifically targets policymakers & stakeholders
- Timed to relate to Parliamentary processes
- More systematically looks at health system information
- But.....only the political group being briefed can be involved in interaction and contribute
- No insights documented and publicised
- These briefings do not always involve pre-circulation of materials

# Policy Briefs

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Different formats but aim to be:

**Concise**

**Easy to understand**

**Highlight different policy options**

**Highlight strengths & limitations**

# Policy Dialogues

## European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies



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### Policy dialogues



(Photo: WHO/Willy Palm)

In order to stimulate evidence-based policy-making in health, the European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies, together with its partners, is engaged in organizing policy dialogues in and with Member States.

Policy dialogues describe a particular brand of bringing evidence to practice: highly focused, targeting senior policy-makers and their top advisers, and marshalling support for key decision points. They aim to offer policy-makers in a country or a group of countries a neutral platform to discuss a particular key policy issue on the basis of comparative evidence and sharing experience. They are likely to come at the beginning or end of a decision-making process and may include other interested stakeholders.

### See also

[About policy dialogues](#)

[Previous policy dialogues](#)

[Policy dialogue presentations for download](#)  
Bringing evidence to practice



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### Connect with Observatory



# Policy Dialogues: Observatory

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- Timed to be topical and policy relevant
- Specifically targets senior policymakers & top advisors
- Involves much participant interaction
- Use of impartial mediator to draw out perspectives
- Links with external experts
- But.....
- Scope for more pre-dialogues information circulation
- Providing more space for informal discussion



# Observations

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- Way in which information packaged makes a difference
- Different methods of communication will be required in different countries due to culture/structural differences
- Interactive knowledge-exchange mechanisms more effective than passive approaches;
- Formative evaluations of impact/ context for knowledge-brokering/exchange organisations
- Important to understand political science contexts; timing of evidence collection etc

# More information on Bridge

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- For more information on Bridge and a range of outputs research for health system policy decisions
- Includes analysis:
- Information packaging mechanisms
- Interactive knowledge exchange mechanisms
- Organisational models for knowledge transfer
- Case studies of experience
- <http://www.euro.who.int/en/who-we-are/partners/observatory/bridge-series>