Building International Partnerships in HIV and Rehabilitation:  
Canada-UK HIV Rehabilitation Research Collaborative (CUHRRC)  

CWGHR Annual General Meeting  
Sunday June 12th, 2011  
Toronto, Ontario  
Funded By: Canadian Institutes of Health Research  
Public Health Agency of Canada

Background  
- Canada and UK – facing similar issues including challenges accessing rehabilitation services, social participation issues, income and employment, concurrent health conditions faced by those aging such as diabetes, osteoarthritis, and cardiac disease.  
- UK – well established HIV and rehabilitation clinical practice system  
- Canada – well established research foundation fostered by CWGHR.  
- Opportunities existed to bridge areas of research and practice.

CUHRRC Meeting – October 2009  
Meeting Goal: To develop an international collaborative research agenda that will address research priorities in HIV and rehabilitation by establishing partnerships with researchers, clinicians, policy makers, and community organizations in Canada and the UK.

Specific objectives:  
1) Knowledge transfer and exchange on HIV and rehabilitation research and service delivery.  
2) Developing 1-2 international research proposals for the CUHRRC.

What is CUHRRC?  
Canada-UK HIV and Rehabilitation Research Collaborative  
International research collaborative that includes people living with HIV, researchers, clinicians, representatives from AIDS service organizations and policy stakeholders in Canada and the United Kingdom (UK) with an interest in HIV and rehabilitation research  
- Founded in 2009

Research Priorities in HIV and Rehabilitation

- Disability & Episodic Disability
- Concurrent Health Conditions Aging with HIV
- HIV & the Brain
- Labour Force & Income Support Issues
- Access to and Effect on Rehabilitation
- Measurement Tools
CUHRRC Meeting Outcomes

Research objectives to pursue....

1) To explore a) the prevalence of disability among PHAs, b) access to and use of related rehabilitation services, and c) living wellness strategies adopted, from the perspective of PHAs.

2) To describe the models of rehabilitation service delivery in Canada and UK (policy analysis) – Jacquie

3) Research bank of ideas (fatigue, aging adults, impact of exercise program in UK).

Recently Funded – Centre for REACH Seed Grant - April 2011-March 2012
Catalyst Grant CIHR Oct 2010-Sept 2011

1) CUHRRC CIHR Catalyst Grant Study

Purpose: To develop a survey study to: a) describe disability and b) examine access to and use of related health and rehabilitation services and c) living strategies among PHAs in Canada.

Objectives:
1) Develop the survey instrument.
2) Develop the sampling strategy and data collection methods.
3) Pre-test and pilot the survey instrument and data collection methods with a small sample of PHAs in Canada.
4) Develop a CIHR Operating Grant Proposal to submit for funding for the implementation of the full Canadian survey – Fall 2011.

CUHRRC Catalyst Team

Team Members from
McMaster University
CWGHR (Principal Knowledge User)
University of Calgary / Victoria
Dalhousie University
University of Toronto
McMaster University
Ontario HIV Treatment Network
Barts and the London NHS Trust
Canada-UK HIV and Rehabilitation Research Collaborative

Collaborators
Nine Circles Community Health Centre (Winnipeg)
Dr. Peter Centre (Vancouver)
Positive Living Society of British Columbia
Direction 180 (Halifax)

2) HIV and Rehabilitation: Bridging Policy and Practice Study

Jacquie Gahagan et al, Dalhousie University

Objectives:
• 1) To conduct a policy scoping review of existing HIV rehabilitation policies in Canada and the UK
• 2) To use this review as a foundation to develop a CIHR operating grant to address the Policy-to-Practice implications for the health outcomes of adults living with HIV in Canada and the UK.

Funded By: Centre for REACH Policy Seed Grant
• CWGHR is a Co-Applicant.
• Aligns with CWGHR’s work on Access Issues to Rehabilitation

Other CUHRRC Updates

• Terms of Reference
• CUHRRC Logo
• CUHRRC quarterly teleconferences
• CUHRRC membership >30 members
• New partnerships – researchers in UK
• CWGHR – Funding from PHAC for CUHRRC Coordination
• CUHRRC webpage on the CWGHR website

E-Module for Evidence-Informed HIV Rehabilitation

Funded by the Public Health Agency of Canada

Canadian Working Group on HIV and Rehabilitation
www.hivandrehab.ca
What is the E-Module?

- Comprehensive 223 page electronic resource to increase the capacity of rehabilitation professionals to work in HIV care.
- Update of previous 'Module 7' published in 1998
- Funded by: Health Force Ontario Interprofessional Care/Education Fund

Why is the E-Module Innovative?

- First comprehensive resource specific for rehabilitation professionals on HIV care
- Incorporates current best evidence
- Interdisciplinary approach to its development.
- Collaboration among team of authors, editors, and external reviewers including people living with HIV, clinicians, researchers, and advocates.

Notable Sections
- Aging and concurrent health conditions,
- Cognitive rehabilitation,
- Evidence-informed rehabilitation interventions,
- Information on accessing rehabilitation and advocacy

Why is the E-Module Innovative?

Six comprehensive complex case studies
- Practical application of knowledge and skills
- Guiding questions to promote critical thinking among rehabilitation professionals about assessment, analysis and treatment interventions
- Can be addressed independently or as a group.
- Discussion notes with embedded links that will direct the reader to applicable sections in the e-module addressed in each case.

Next Steps

Keeping the E-Module Up to Date

Periodic updates to the e-module to ensure current best evidence incorporated in the e-module.

Research

Purpose: To evaluate the nature and extent of uptake of the e-module among rehabilitation professionals in Canada.
- How is the e-module being used?
- What are the barriers and facilitators to use?
- How to modify specifically for PHA use
- Recently funded by the CIHR (2 years).

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