ISRCTN35240937 https://doi.org/10.1186/ISRCTN35240937

Is a knowledge broker more effective than other strategies in promoting evidence-based physical activity and healthy body weight programming?

Submission date
09/07/2007

Recruitment status
No longer recruiting

Registration date
21/12/2007

Overall study status
Completed

Last Edited
11/09/2014

Condition category
Nutritional, Metabolic, Endocrine

[_] Prospectively registered
[_] Protocol
[_] Statistical analysis plan
[X] Results
[_] Individual participant data

Plain English summary of protocol
Not provided at time of registration

Study website
http://www.health-evidence.ca

Contact information

Type(s)
Scientific

Contact name
Dr Maureen Dobbins

Contact details
1200 Main Street West
McMaster University School of Nursing
Rm 3N25G - HSC
Hamilton
Canada
L8N 3Z5
+1 905 525 9140 ext. 22481
dobbinsm@mcmaster.ca

Additional identifiers

EudraCT/CTIS number

IRAS number

ClinicalTrials.gov number

Secondary identifying numbers
MOP-64201

Study information

Scientific Title
Evaluating the knowledge broker: comparing strategies to support decision makers translation of evidence on physical activity and healthy body weight among children

Study objectives
1. Public health units exposed to the knowledge translation (KT) strategy will report greater incorporation of the results of the systematic reviews into the decision-making process
2. The greater the intensity of the KT strategy the greater the level of incorporation of the results of the systematic reviews into the policy and program planning decision-making process
3. Specific characteristics of the organisation, environment, innovation, and individual, will explain the degree to which public health units incorporate the results of the systematic reviews into policy and program planning decisions
4. The greater the level of interaction in the KT strategy the greater the level of satisfaction decision-makers will report on the usefulness of the Public Health Effectiveness Registry

Please note that as of 11/07/2008 this trial record was updated. All changes can be found in the relevant field under the above update date. At this time, a public title was added to this trial record as above and the sponsor has been changed; this was originally named as Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) (Canada).

Ethics approval required
Old ethics approval format

Ethics approval(s)
Received on 28/08/2003 (Project Number: 03-248) from the following Research Ethics Boards (REBs):
1. St. Josephs Healthcare Hamilton
2. Hamilton Health Sciences/McMaster University, Faculty of Health Sciences
Annual approval is gained for continuation (same project number).

Study design
Randomised controlled trial stratified by population served by each public health unit

Primary study design
Interventional

Secondary study design
Randomised controlled trial

Study setting(s)
Hospital

Study type(s)
Diagnostic

Participant information sheet

Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied
Physical activity and healthy body weight promotion

Interventions
Current interventions as of 11/07/2008:
The intervention for all three groups will be implemented over the course of one fiscal year (March 2004 - February 2005). Follow-up data collection will occur one year post-intervention (February 2006).

Group 1 will have access to an online, easy to use registry of effectiveness evidence in the form of systematic reviews, relevant to public health (www.health-evidence.ca), along with direct marketing of the availability of this evidence and its potential uses.

Group 2 will have the same access as Group 1 with the addition of direct mailing of abstracts, executive summaries, and complete systematic reviews evaluating physical activity and healthy body weight prevention strategies.

Group 3 will have the same access as Group 1 and Group 2 with the addition of a knowledge broker who will assist decision-makers in interpreting the results of the disseminated systematic reviews along with other data, and place this information within the local context.

The control group will not be exposed to any of the KT strategies but rather will continue with 'usual practice' in terms of the methods that are currently available for accessing research evidence in Canada (e.g., peer reviewed journals, websites, conferences, colleagues, networks).

Given the potential positive impact of the KT strategy offered to Group 2, this will be provided to those in Group 1 as well as those in the control group for a period of six months following the final data collection period. Since the effect of the knowledge broker will not be known immediately following the intervention period and would require significant resources to administer to all participants who did not receive this intervention, this aspect of the intervention will not be offered to other groups post-intervention.

Previous interventions:
1. Access to an online registry of effectiveness evidence (www.health-evidence.ca)
2. Targeted messages to public health decision-makers of effectiveness evidence
3. Interaction with a knowledge broker who will assist decision makers in interpreting the results of the disseminated systematic reviews

Intervention Type
Other

Phase
Not Applicable

Primary outcome measure

1. The provision of evidence-based program components by public health units, specifically, whether interventions provided included the following components:
1.1. Focus on changing behaviour as opposed to gaining knowledge
1.2. Are multi-component
1.3. Messages are targeted at specific behaviours
1.4. Target high-risk populations
1.5. Include the use of small groups
1.6. Include messages targeted at decreasing sedentary behaviour and increasing physical activity
1.7. Advocate for an increase in the number of physical activity
1.8. Advocate for an increase in the amount of aerobic activity provided in physical activity classes
1.9. Advocate for regular classroom teachers to receive special training, or for specialists to teach physical education classes
1.10. Promotes family and/or community development
2. The extent to which research evidence led to concrete changes in programs/policies
3. The extent to which research evidence confirmed current policies/programs

These were assessed at baseline, post-intervention, and one year post-intervention.

Secondary outcome measures
1. Personal use of new research evidence related to physical activity and healthy body weight promotion
2. Inclusion of research evidence in the decision making process (in their organisation)
3. Extent to which research evidence is considered in the decision making process
4. Description of how research evidence influenced the decision
5. Extent to which research evidence influenced the decision

These were assessed at baseline, post-intervention, and one year post-intervention.

Overall study start date
01/10/2003

Completion date
01/09/2007

Eligibility

Key inclusion criteria
Study participants include public health professionals responsible for making policy or program decisions related to physical activity and health body weight promotion among children, currently working in public health units in Canada.

Participant type(s)
Patient

Age group
Adult

Sex
Both

Target number of participants
141

Key exclusion criteria
1. Area of responsibility primary/clinical care (treatment, management of disease as opposed to prevention, promotion and protection)
2. No responsibility for and or involvement in decision making related to physical activity and healthy body weight promotion in children
3. Not currently working in a public health unit

Date of first enrolment
01/10/2003

Date of final enrolment
01/09/2007

Locations

Countries of recruitment
Canada

Study participating centre
1200 Main Street West
Hamilton
Canada
L8N 3Z5

Sponsor information

Organisation
McMaster University School of Nursing (Canada)

Sponsor details
1200 Main Street West
Hamilton
Canada
L8N 3Z5

Sponsor type
University/education

Website
http://www-fhs.mcmaster.ca/nursing/

ROR
https://ror.org/02fa3aq29

Funder(s)

Funder type
Research organisation

Funder Name
Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) (Canada) - http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca (ref: MOP-64201)

Results and Publications

Publication and dissemination plan
Not provided at time of registration

Intention to publish date

Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan

IPD sharing plan summary
Not provided at time of registration

Study outputs

Output type	Details	Date created	Date added	Peer reviewed?	Patient-facing?
Results article	results	01/06/2014		Yes	No