

From Nurse to Knowledge Broker

Elizabeth Walker RN, BScN, CCHN(C)

Jackie Muresan, RN, MSc

Zsuzsi Rety, RN, BScN



Learning objectives



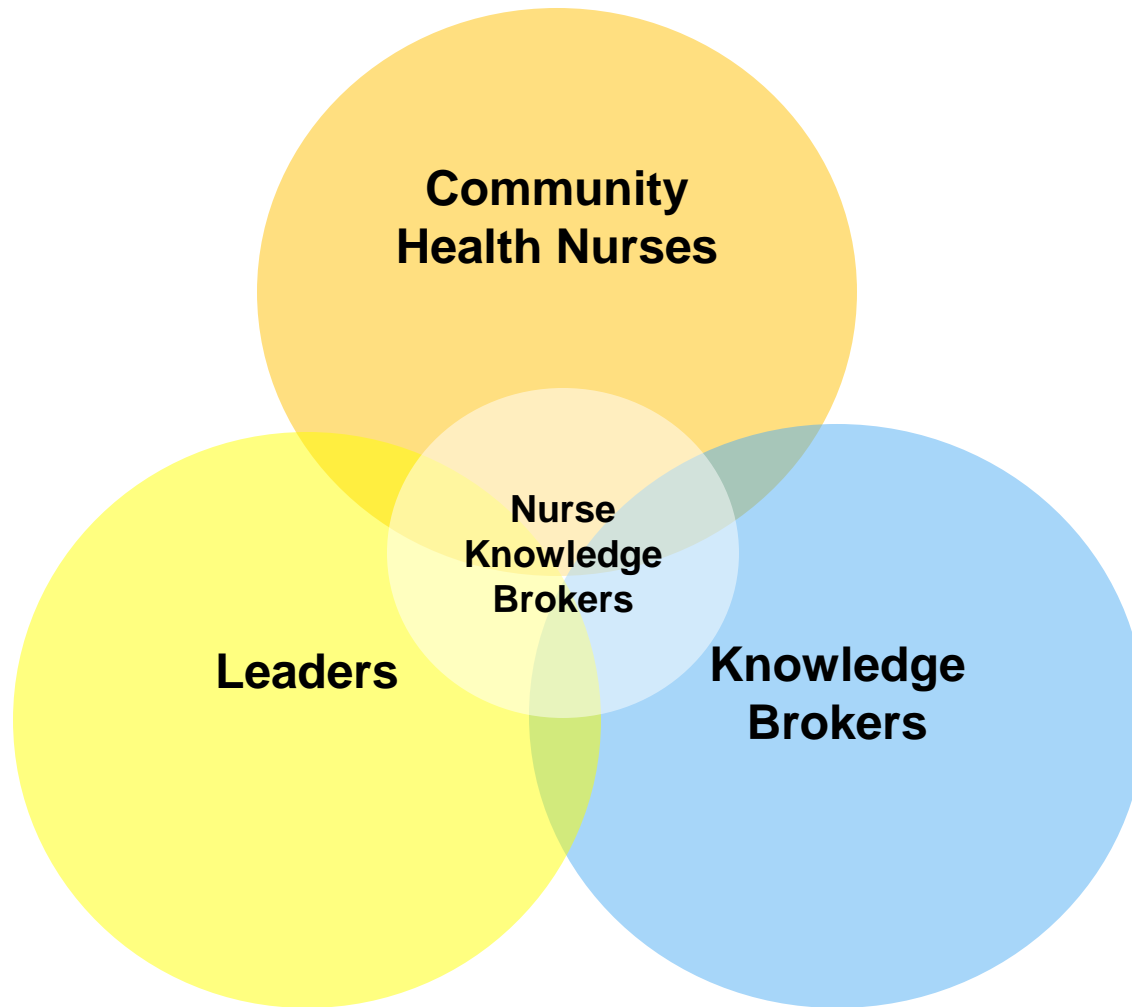
- To describe the value of Knowledge Brokers in advancing use of high quality evidence in public health settings.
- To increase awareness of the nursing skills that are transferable to the knowledge broker role.
- To share two approaches to preparing nursing and other health disciplines for roles as Knowledge Brokers.

A Model for Evidence-Informed Decision Making (EIDM)



Knowledge Brokering





**Community
Health Nurses**

Leaders

**Knowledge
Brokers**

**Nurse
Knowledge
Brokers**

Community Health Nurses

- Participate in knowledge generation and translation
- Engage in evidence-informed decision making
- Practice with an emphasis on teamwork, collaboration, consultation and professional relationships

A yellow circle containing the text "Community Health Nursing" in black, bold, sans-serif font.

Community
Health
Nursing

Leaders

- Participate in system transformation
- Lead self
- Engage others



Leadership

Knowledge Brokers

- Engage and connect with stakeholders
- Obtain the best available evidence
- Build capacity
- Support communication
- Promote reflective practice

(Bornbaum, et al. 2015)



**Knowledge
Brokering**

Peel Public Health's KB training



KB cohort #1



KB cohort #2

NCCMT's KB Mentoring Program



“Providing PH practitioners with the knowledge, skills and tools to demonstrate beginning proficiency in evidence-informed public health in order to advance the uptake and use of research evidence in their own and other’s practice.”

(NCCMT Program Syllabus, 2015)

Workplace Challenges for KBs

- ❖ Workload demands
- ❖ Role ambiguity
- ❖ Lack of common understanding
- ❖ Resistance to changing practice



How can I build capacity around EIDM?



Community of Practice (CoP)

An informal network of peers held together by members' desire to help others and advance their own knowledge in an area of practice (CDC, 2011).



Evolution of the CoP

- ❖ Start small
- ❖ Create an inclusive environment
- ❖ Meet regularly
- ❖ Encourage new membership
- ❖ Focus on topics relevant to work
- ❖ Practice using EIDM tools
- ❖ Discuss implications for practice
- ❖ Share knowledge and experiences beyond CoP



Discussion questions

- How could nurse knowledge brokers (KBs) be used within your organization?
- What opportunities exist within your workplace for establishing a nurse KB role?



Summary thoughts



- Knowledge brokers can lead change within an organization at the staff and management level.
- Nurses possess soft skills that are essential to the knowledge broker role.
- The National Collaborating Centre for Methods and Tools (NCCMT) provides resources and supports for EIDM. Check it out!

References

- Bornbaum, C., Kornas, K., Peirson, L. & Rosella, L. (2015). Exploring the function and effectiveness of knowledge brokers as facilitators of knowledge translation in health related settings: a systematic review and thematic analysis. *Implementation Science*, 10,(162): 1-12.
- Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) (2011). Introduction to Communities of Practice. Available from: <https://www.cdc.gov/phcommunities/resourcekit/intro/index.html>
- Community Health Nurses of Canada (revised March 2011). Canadian Community Health Nursing Standards of Practice . Available from: <https://www.chnc.ca/en/standards-of-practice>
- Community Health Nurses of Canada, (June 2015). Leadership competencies for public health practice in Canada: Leadership competency Statements 1.0. St. Johns, NL. Available from: <https://www.chnc.ca/en/competencies>
- Canadian Institutes for Health Research. (2016) About Knowledge Translation. Available from <http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/29418.html>
- Catallo C. Should nurses be knowledge brokers? Competencies and organizational resources to support the role. *Nursing Leadership*. 2015; 28(1):24-37
- DiCenso A, Ciliska D, Guyatt G. Introduction to evidence-based nursing. In: DiCenso A, Ciliska D, Guyatt G, editors. *Evidence-based nursing: a guide to clinical practice*. St. Louis, MO: Elsevier Mosby; 2005. p. 3-19.
- National Collaborating Centre for Methods and Tools. A model for evidence-informed decision making in public health. Hamilton: National Collaborating Centre for Methods and Tools; 2009. Available from: http://www.nccmt.ca/pubs/FactSheet_EIDM_EN_WEB.pdf

Contact information

Elizabeth.walker@peelregion.ca

Jackie.Muresan@peelregion.ca

Zsuzsi.Rety@hamilton.ca