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sharing what **works** in public health

# Registry of Knowledge Translation Methods and Tools

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National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD

Funded by the Public Health Agency of Canada; Affiliated with McMaster University

# National Collaborating Centres for Public Health (NCCPH)

Established to make research and evidence-informed practice in public health more relevant and understandable for individuals and organizations that can use this information on a daily basis





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## National Collaborating Centre for Methods and Tools

The National Collaborating Centre for Methods and Tools (NCCMT) is one of six [National Collaborating Centres](#) funded by the Public Health Agency of Canada.

### Registry of Knowledge Translation Methods and Tools for Public Health

[Search the Registry](#). Find accessible, quality appraised and searchable Knowledge Translation methods and tools. View all resources contained in the Registry or use keyword, targeted, or matrix searches to find specific types of methods and tools or search for methods and tools with particular features.

[What's New?](#) Visit the Registry website regularly to learn about new methods and tools or to [sign up for e-alerts](#) so we can notify you when items have been posted or updated. There is also a section where you can [suggest a method or a tool](#) for inclusion in the Registry.

### DialoguePH

DialoguePH is a network designed to help you and your colleagues share methods and tools that will facilitate knowledge synthesis, translation and exchange within and across public health departments in Canada.

DialoguePH creates the spaces (face-to-face-and virtual) where people interested or experienced in knowledge synthesis, translation and exchange in public health can:

- save time
- interact with others
- develop and share new methods and tools
- exchange practical ideas with colleagues who strive to move evidence into practice
- be part of building effective programs and services to strengthen public health in Canada

[Become a Member of DialoguePH](#)

## What's New?

### Resources

Another evidence-based systematic review has been posted to the Effective Public Health Practice Project website. To access "The effectiveness of community-based and primary-care interventions in reducing obesity among adults in the general population" please [click here](#).

Visit the EPHPP website and reviews: [www.hamilton.ca/ephpp](http://www.hamilton.ca/ephpp). If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact us at [ephpp@mcmaster.ca](mailto:ephpp@mcmaster.ca).

[Knowledge Management: Background Paper for the Development of a Knowledge Management Strategy for Public Health in Canada](#)

### NEW Resource on health-evidence.ca!

To support evidence-informed public health decision making in **chronic disease prevention**.

Check out [health-evidence.ca](http://health-evidence.ca)

# Why did we create the Registry?

- 2006 Environmental Scan\*
- Need to identify knowledge translation methods and tools
- Need to facilitate quick and easy access to these resources

\*Ciliska, D., Clark, K., Thomas, H., Valaitis, R., & VanBerkel, C. (2006, September 30). *National Collaborating Centre: Public health methodologies and tools. Environmental scan: Final report.* (Available from the National Collaborating Centre for Methods and Tools, 1685 Main St., W. Suite 302, Hamilton, ON, L8S 1G5)



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# What is the Registry?

an interactive and expanding on-line database of resources to support different types and stages of knowledge translation activities relevant to public health



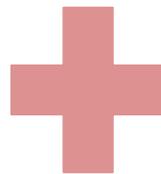
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an interactive and expanding on-line database of **RESOURCES** to support different types and stages of knowledge translation activities relevant to public health

METHODS  
standardized  
processes



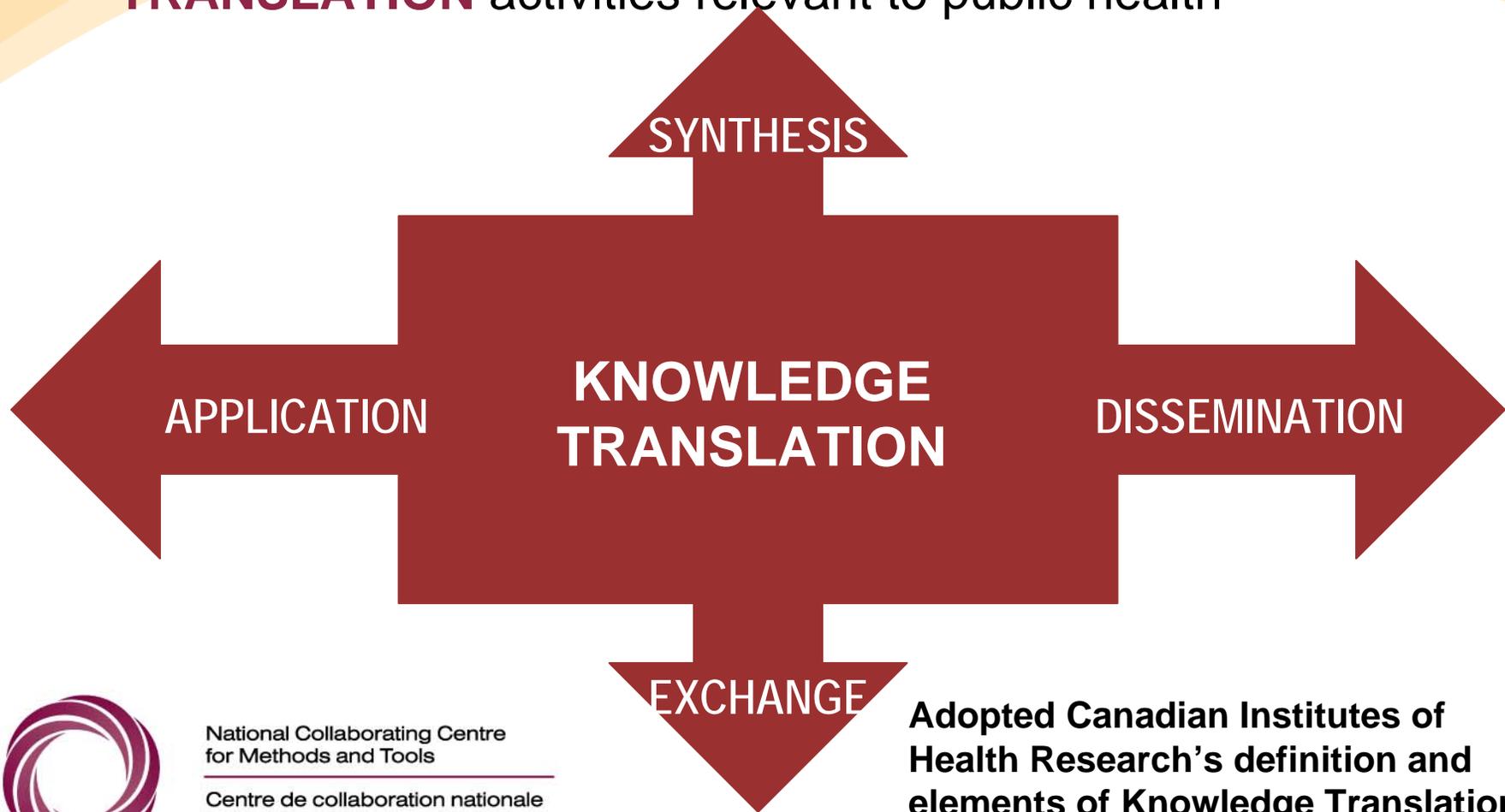
TOOLS  
standardized  
products



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an interactive and expanding on-line database of resources to support different **TYPES** and stages **OF KNOWLEDGE TRANSLATION** activities relevant to public health

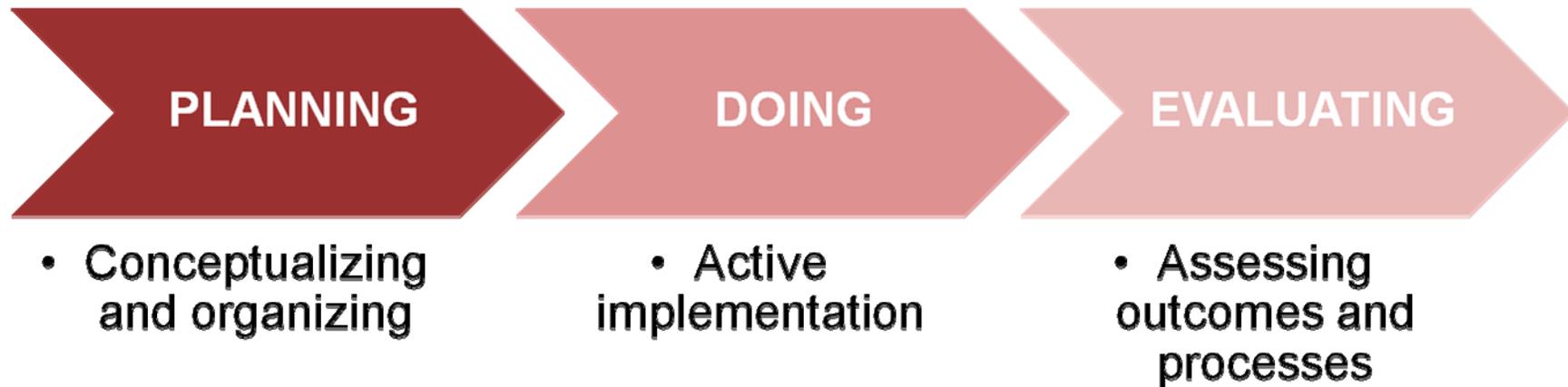


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**Adopted Canadian Institutes of  
Health Research's definition and  
elements of Knowledge Translation**

an interactive and expanding on-line database of resources to support different types and **STAGES OF KNOWLEDGE TRANSLATION ACTIVITIES** relevant to public health



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an **INTERACTIVE** and expanding on-line database of resources to support different types and stages of knowledge translation activities relevant to public health

- Searchable database
- Options for viewing different levels of information
- Comparison of methods/tools across a range of features
- Public comments/questions linked to specific methods/tools
- Private feedback, request help, general Registry questions
- Moderated NCCMT discussion forum (DialoguePH)
- Suggest methods/tools for inclusion
- Sign up for e-alerts



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an interactive and **EXPANDING** on-line database of resources to support different types and stages of knowledge translation activities relevant to public health

- Launch November 2008 with sample of methods/tools
- First search cycle (2008-10) will look back as far as 1985
- Subsequent cycles will update searches
- Relevant methods/tools will be summarized and added to the Registry on an on-going basis
- As fields of KT and KT research expand expect new methods/tools will be developed and added to Registry



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an interactive and expanding on-line database of resources  
to support different types and stages of knowledge  
translation activities **RELEVANT TO PUBLIC HEALTH**

- Registry developed for public health audiences
- All methods/tools in the Registry are designed specifically for public health or can be adapted for use in public health

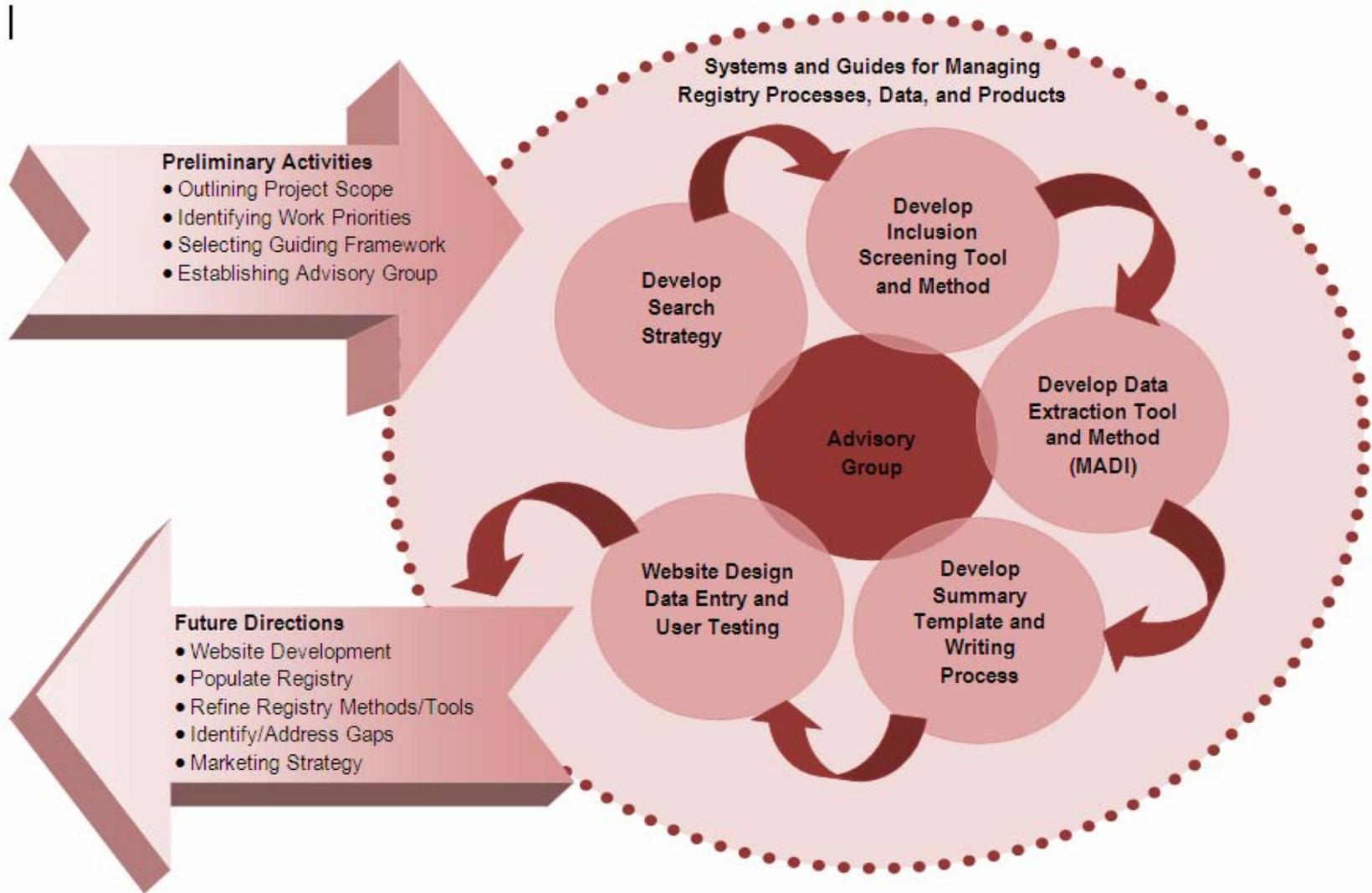


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# Registry Development Process





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## Welcome to the NCCMT Registry of Knowledge Translation Methods and Tools for Public Health

Find accessible, quality appraised and searchable Knowledge Translation methods and tools

As a product and service of the National Collaborating Centre for Methods and Tools (NCCMT), the Registry has become an integral part in fulfilling the primary mandate of the NCCMT and the Government of Canada's commitment to **renew and strengthen public health** across the country.

To this end, **a need to identify knowledge translation methods and tools** and to **facilitate quick and easy access to these resources** defined the cornerstone objectives of the Registry. To read more, visit [About the Registry](#).

The Registry of Knowledge Translation Methods and Tools for Public Health can help:

- Front-line public health practitioners to find resources that help communicate new knowledge to clients and colleagues;
- Public health decision-makers locate methods that support innovation uptake in their organization;
- Program evaluators obtain tools to synthesize and appraise public health related research;
- Knowledge brokers find methods to apply a new technique for working with community partners;
- Policy-makers locate tools to summarize relevant evidence for public health policy decisions;
- And more...

The Registry for Knowledge Translation Methods and Tools for Public Health is designed for anyone interested and involved in public health across Canada needing access to current, summarized, information about Knowledge Translation Methods and Tools. This site aims to help various individuals who work in public health, such as frontline practitioners, knowledge brokers, health promoters, managers, decision-makers, policy makers, evaluators and researchers, [Search](#) for applicable methods and tools.

When using the Registry, you will find summaries of different tools and methods applicable to Public Health that help in the "planning, doing, and evaluating" of different types of Knowledge Translation activities, including:

- [Knowledge Dissemination](#)
- [Knowledge Synthesis](#)
- [Knowledge Exchange](#)
- [Knowledge Application](#)

Knowledge Translation defined by the [Canadian Institutes of Health Research \(CIHR\)](#)

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# Search The Registry

Currently there are 3 methods and 5 tools in the Registry. You can search for methods and tools using any of the four strategies listed below.

## Show All

Click the button on the right for an alphabetical listing of all resources contained in the Registry.

[Show All](#)

## Keyword Search

Enter your keyword(s) into the box below and hit the Search button to find records that match on any of the given words.

Keyword(s):  [Search](#)

## Targeted Search

Use this strategy to search for methods and tools using one or more preset parameters. Select the desired choice(s) below then hit the Search button. The more items you check the FEWER results you will obtain as records must match ALL selected criteria to be displayed.

### Resource Type

 Method

 Tool

### Stage

 Planning

 Doing

 Evaluating

### Activity

 Synthesis

### Reliability (Tools Only)

 Properties Meet Accepted Standards

### Methodological Rating (Tools Only)

 Strong

 Moderate

 Weak

 Unknown/No Evidence

### Completion Time

 Less than 10 minutes

### Language

 English

 French

 Other

### Format

 Paper copy

 CD or DVD

 On-line Access

 Periodical

### Matrix Search

Decide which matrix combines your priority search fields and which levels you are interested in within each field. The numbers in the cells indicate how many resources are available in each category. To view the desired methods and/or tools click the number in the appropriate cell.

#### Matrix 1: Resources x Activities

ACTIVITIES	RESOURCES	
	 Methods	 Tools
 Synthesis	2	3
 Dissemination	0	0
 Exchange	1	2
 Application	0	0

#### Matrix 2: Resources x Stages

STAGES	RESOURCES	
	 Methods	 Tools
 Planning	0	0
 Doing	2	3
 Evaluating	1	2

#### Matrix 3: Activities x Stages

ACTIVITIES	STAGES		
	 Planning	 Doing	 Evaluating
 Synthesis	0	5	0
 Dissemination	0	0	0
 Exchange	0	0	2

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## Search Results

Your Keyword search returned 8 results.

You can choose from several display options and interactive features:

- click on **View Brief Summary** to display a short (approximately 100 word) abstract of the resource
- click on **View Detailed Summary** to display a chart containing more extensive information about the method or tool, its uses and features, developer contact information, and links for accessing relevant materials
- click on **View/Add Comments** to read about others' experiences using this method/tool or if you have tried this resource to share your comments and observations about this method/tool
- in the **Compare** box, click to select one or more resources, then click the **Compare Selected** button for a visual summary of key characteristics

**Compare Selected**

Resource	Compare
<p><b>Partnership Synergy Framework</b> (Centers for the Advancement of Collaborative Strategies in Health, Affiliated with the Partnership Self-Assessment Tool, New York, USA)</p> <p>[ <a href="#">View Brief Summary</a> ] [ <a href="#">View Detailed Summary</a> ] [ <a href="#">View/Add Comments</a> ]</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><b>Guide to Community Preventive Services Data Abstraction Method</b> (Community Guide Branch, National Center for Health Marketing (NCHM), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Georgia, USA)</p> <p>[ <a href="#">View Brief Summary</a> ] [ <a href="#">View Detailed Summary</a> ] [ <a href="#">View/Add Comments</a> ]</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><b>Quality Assessment Tool For Quantitative Studies Method</b> (Effective Public Health Practice Project, School of Nursing, McMaster University, Ontario, Canada)</p> <p>  </p> <p><b>Resource:</b> Method <b>Activity:</b> Synthesis <b>Stage:</b> Doing <b>Brief Summary:</b> The process described by Thomas, Ciliska, Dobbins, &amp; Micucci (2004) is a method to guide knowledge synthesis. This method discusses a standardized means of assessing study quality and developing recommendations for study findings and products, including a user manual and a "Quality Appraisal Tool For Quantitative Studies." The method and accompanying tool is used by the Effective Public Health Practice Project (EPHPP).</p> <p>The EPHPP began in 1998 with funding from the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC). The goal of the project was to address the lack of high quality evidence to support public health interventions outlined in Ontario's standards for public health known as Ontario Mandatory Health Programs and Service Guidelines (MHPSG, 1997). In order to provide high quality systematic reviews to address the public health sectors need for evidence to support practice, a standardized method was developed.</p> <p>[ <a href="#">Hide Brief Summary</a> ] [ <a href="#">View Detailed Summary</a> ] [ <a href="#">View/Add Comments</a> ]</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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## Quality Assessment Tool For Quantitative Studies

Effective Public Health Practice Project, 1998

<b>Resource</b>	 Tool
<b>Activity</b>	 Synthesis
<b>Stage</b>	 Doing
<b>Description</b>	<p>The "Quality Assessment Tool For Quantitative Studies" developed by the Effective Public Health Practice Project (EPHPP) is a tool for doing knowledge synthesis. This instrument, along with a user manual, provides a standardized means to assess study quality and develop recommendations for study findings. The quality appraisal tool was developed by the Effective Public Health Practice Project (EPHPP) as a discrete step within the systematic review process.</p> <p>The EPHPP began in 1998 with funding from the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC). The goal of the project was to address the lack of high quality evidence to support public health interventions known as Ontario Mandatory Health Programs and Service Guidelines (MHPSG, 1997) as outlined in Ontario's standards for public health. This standardized tool was developed in order to provide high quality systematic reviews to address the public health sector's need for evidence to support practice.</p> <p>Final results of the "Quality Assessment Tool For Quantitative Studies" lead to an overall methodological rating of strong, moderate or weak in eight sections:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. selection bias</li> <li>2. study design</li> <li>3. confounders</li> <li>4. blinding</li> <li>5. data collection methods</li> <li>6. withdrawals and dropouts</li> <li>7. intervention integrity</li> <li>8. analysis</li> </ol> <p>A reviewer's dictionary is provided to assist reviewers and maintain standardized results.</p>
<b>Relevance for Public Health</b>	<p>This instrument was developed for use in public health, and can be applied to articles of any public health topic area. Some of these areas include the promotion of family and sexual health and the prevention of chronic disease, injuries and substance misuse. Various types of public health professionals would find this tool relevant to utilize sources of high quality literature to support the decision-making process, especially when designing, implementing and evaluating public health programs and policy.</p>

### Evaluation and Measurement Characteristics

quality literature to support the decision-making process, especially when designing, implementing and evaluating public health programs and policy.

### Evaluation and Measurement Characteristics

#### Evaluation



Has been evaluated. This tool has been evaluated for content and initial construct validity and inter-rater reliability.

#### Validity



Validity properties meet accepted standards. Thomas, Ciliska, Dobbins & Miccucci (2004) assessed content validity using an iterative process. An expert group was formed to review the tool for consistency of coding, interpretation, and examination of evidence tables and/or recommendations. The validation process involved assessing the instrument's content and categories for clarity, completeness and relevance, and an overall comparison with similar types of tools.

#### Reliability



Reliability properties meet accepted standards. Test-retest reliability on this tool was calculated over two occasions using a random selection of primary studies and two reviewers. Results indicated that agreement for the two reviewers was Kappa 0.74 and Kappa 0.61 (Thomas, et al., 2004).

#### Methodological Rating



Strong

### Accessing the Method/Tool

#### Language(s)



English

#### Format(s)



On-line Access

#### Cost to Access



No Cost

### Implementing the Method/Tool

#### Who is involved

This tool requires individuals to have specialized expertise in critical appraisal methods. Having knowledge of public health interventions and the ability to synthesize results into applicable practice recommendations is also important.

## Implementing the Method/Tool

<b>Who is involved</b>	This tool requires individuals to have specialized expertise in critical appraisal methods. Having knowledge of public health interventions and the ability to synthesize results into applicable practice recommendations is also important.
<b>Time</b>	 30 to 60 minutes. The authors of this tool suggest that it takes an individual approximately 30 minutes to complete the "Quality Assessment Tool For Quantitative Studies".
<b>Additional Resources and/or Skills Needed for Implementation</b>	A companion document "Dictionary for the Effective Public Health Practice Project Quality Assessment Tool For Quantitative Studies" is provided to assist with scoring the tool. Potentially, some expertise might be required when analyzing results. See Resources.
<b>Steps for Using Method/Tool</b>	The tool can be applied after a research article has been selected for critical appraisal. After the article has been reviewed, the "Quality Appraisal Tool For Quantitative Studies" is completed according to the instructions provided in the accompanying companion manual.
<b>Conditions for Use</b>	A standardized approach for the assessment of qualitative research has not been completed. Currently, the EPHPP uses qualitative research in order to explain and interpret the outcomes and interventions under review.

## Method/Tool Development

<b>Developer(s)</b>	The Effective Public Health Practice Project (EPHPP), McMaster University, Faculty of Health Sciences, School of Nursing. The original authors are B.H. Thomas, Associate Professor, McMaster University School of Nursing, D. Ciliska, Professor, McMaster University School of Nursing, M. Dobbins, Associate Professor, McMaster University School of Nursing, and S. Micucci, Project Coordinator.
<b>Method of Development</b>	This tool was developed by reviewing available instruments in peer review literature and devising a list of components. Content validity was assessed by circulation to six experts in appraising study quality; comments were incorporated. A pilot version tested ten primary studies by four experts in critical appraisal and community health. The tool was further clarified with feedback from the reviewers. A detailed dictionary was developed, as well as guidelines for assessing the overall strength of the articles.
<b>Release Date</b>	1998
<b>Contact Person/Source</b>	Project Coordinator Effective Public Health Practice Project 1685 Main St. W., Suite 302 Hamilton Ontario L8S 1G5 905-525-9140

## RESOURCES

<b>Name of Document</b>	Quality Assessment Tool For Quantitative Studies
<b>File Attachment</b>	<a href="#">QATool.pdf</a>
<b>Web-link</b>	<a href="http://www.myhamilton.ca/myhamilton/CityandGovernment/HealthandSocialServices/Research/EPHPP/">http://www.myhamilton.ca/myhamilton/CityandGovernment/HealthandSocialServices/Research/EPHPP/</a>
<b>Reference</b>	Effective Public Health Practice Project. (1998). Quality Assessment Tool For Quantitative Studies. Retrieved October 2008 from above web address. Corresponding article of interest: Thomas, B.H., Ciliska, D., Dobbins, M., & Micucci, S. (2004). A process for systematically reviewing the literature: Providing the research evidence for public health nursing interventions. <i>Worldviews on Evidence-Based Nursing</i> , 1(3), 176-184.
<b>Type of Material</b>	Tool - Data Abstraction
<b>Format</b>	On-line Access
<b>Cost to Access</b>	None
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Conditions for Use</b>	None

<b>Name of Document</b>	Dictionary for the Effective Public Health Practice Project Quality Assessment Tool For Quantitative Studies
<b>File Attachment</b>	<a href="#">QADictionary.pdf</a>
<b>Web-link</b>	<a href="http://www.myhamilton.ca/myhamilton/CityandGovernment/HealthandSocialServices/Research/EPHPP/">http://www.myhamilton.ca/myhamilton/CityandGovernment/HealthandSocialServices/Research/EPHPP/</a>
<b>Reference</b>	Effective Public Health Practice Project. (1998). Dictionary for the Effective Public Health Practice Project Quality Assessment Tool For Quantitative Studies. Retrieved October 2008 from above web address. Corresponding article of interest: Thomas, B.H., Ciliska, D., Dobbins, M., & Micucci, S. (2004). A process for systematically reviewing the literature: Providing the research evidence for public health nursing interventions. <i>Worldviews on Evidence-Based Nursing</i> , 1(3), 176-184.
<b>Type of Material</b>	Tool - Supplementary Material
<b>Format</b>	On-line Access
<b>Cost to Access</b>	None
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Conditions for Use</b>	None

<b>Name of Document</b>	A process for systematically reviewing the literature: Providing the research evidence
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	<a href="#">/29&amp;volume=1&amp;issue=3&amp;pages=176</a>
<b>Reference</b>	Thomas, B.H., Ciliska, D., Dobbins, M., & Micucci, S. (2004). A process for systematically reviewing the literature: Providing the research evidence for public health nursing interventions. <i>Worldviews on Evidence-Based Nursing</i> , 1(3), 176-184.
<b>Type of Material</b>	Method - Doing Synthesis
<b>Format</b>	Periodical
<b>Cost to Access</b>	None
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Conditions for Use</b>	Copyright Worldviews on Evidence-Based Nursing

### Users' Comments About This Method/Tool

Have you used this method/tool? This space is available for you to share your experiences and observations with other Registry Users.

#### Add your comments about this method/tool:

You are currently not logged in. If you are a registered member, please first login before posting.

Author

Body

Please type the text you see displayed in the image below:



[Submit Post](#)

## Feature Comparison Chart

Two feature comparison charts display visual summaries of key characteristics of selected methods and tools according to:

- Resource Description, Evaluation and Measure Characteristics
- Access and Implementation Information

For a detailed summary of a specific method or tool's characteristics, click on the name of the resource in the feature comparison chart.

**Table 1: Resource Description, Evaluation and Measurement Characteristics**

Resource Name	Resource Type	Activity	Stage	Evaluation	Validity	Reliability	Methodological Rating
<a href="#">Quality Checklist for Health Care Intervention Studies</a>							
<a href="#">Partnership Self-Assessment Tool</a>							
<a href="#">Guide to Community Preventive Services Data Abstraction Form</a>							
<a href="#">Quality Assessment Tool For Quantitative Studies</a>							

**Table 2: Access and Implementation Information**

Resource Name	Language	Format	Cost	Public/Proprietary	Additional Resources	Completion Time
<a href="#">Quality Checklist for Health Care Intervention Studies</a>						
<a href="#">Partnership Self-Assessment Tool</a>						
<a href="#">Guide to Community Preventive Services Data Abstraction Form</a>		 				
<a href="#">Quality Assessment Tool For Quantitative Studies</a>						

# Learnings

- Decide on definitions, communicate, move on



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# Learnings

- Decide on definitions, communicate, move on
- On-going and face to face communication between project team and web-designers



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# Learnings

- Decide on definitions, communicate, move on
- On-going and face to face communication between project team and web-designers
- Pilot testing with target audiences to inform production of summaries



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# Learnings

- Decide on definitions, communicate, move on
- On-going and face to face communication between project team and web-designers
- Pilot testing with target audiences to inform production of summaries
- Marketing and promoting the Registry



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# Learnings

- Decide on definitions, communicate, move on
- On-going and face to face communication between project team and web-designers
- Pilot testing with target audiences to inform production of summaries
- Marketing and promoting the Registry
- Flexibility to evolve – the Registry as a living product/service



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# Questions ● Feedback ● Discussion

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