# Cochrane Health Equity Field: contribution to an evidence-based approach to equity

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# Qué harías si encontraras un oso? A) correr; B) simular que estás muerto; C) bailar salsa

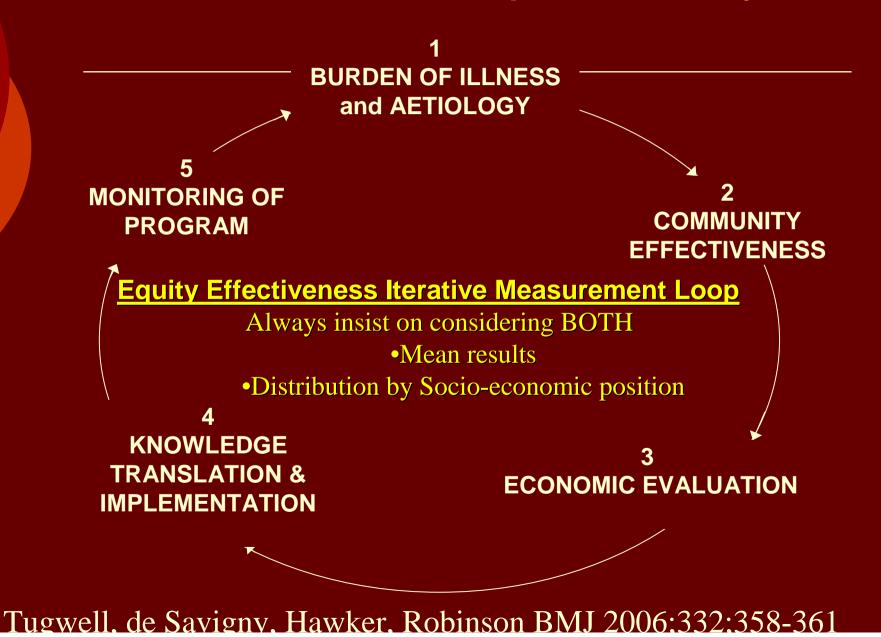


#### Objectives

- To illustrate an evidence-based framework for developing policies and programs to reduce inequity in health and health services
- To describe the activities of the Cochrane Health Equity Field
- To invite you to join the Cochrane and Campbell Equity Field in developing the equity evidence base



### Framework for an evidence base for policy on interventions in health care and public health systems



"The term 'inequity' has a moral and ethical dimension. It refers to differences which are unnecessary and avoidable but, in addition, are also considered unfair and unjust."

- Whitehead, 1991



# Equity Gradients Not just Socio-economic Status!

- 'PROGRESS' [Evans and Brown].
- Place of Residence
- Race/ethnicity/culture
- Occupation
- o Gender
- Religion
- Education
- Socioeconomic status
- Social networks/resources



# Distribution of arthritis by Socio-economic position in Canada

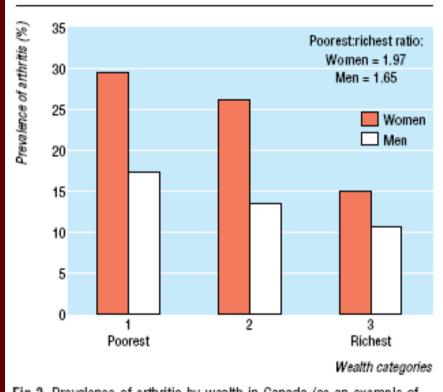


Fig 3 Prevalence of arthritis by wealth in Canada (as an example of an industrialised country)

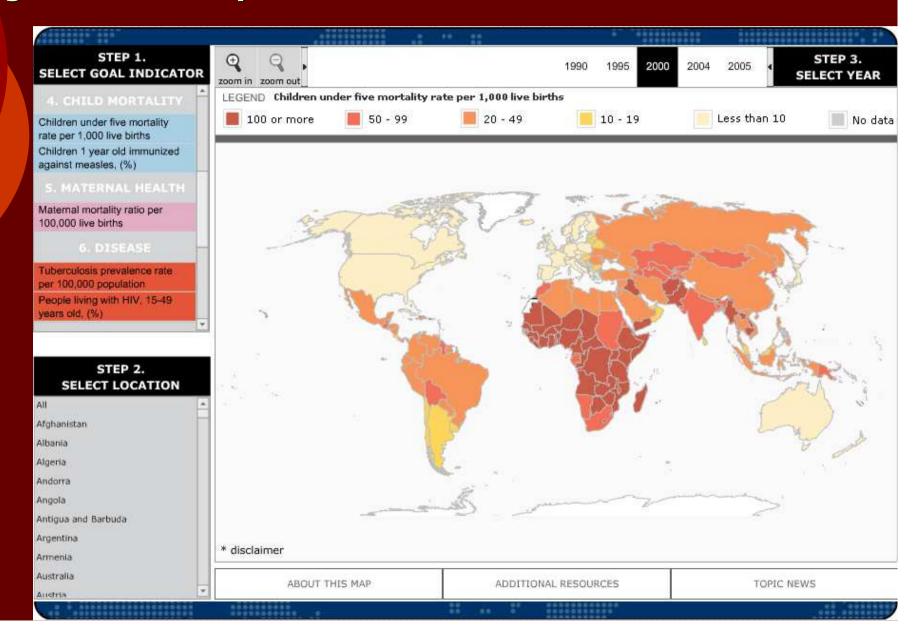
Wealth categories are 1) <\$20,000; 2) \$20,000- \$49,000 and 3)  $\ge$ \$50,000

**Reference**: NM Kasman and EM Badley. The impact of arthritis on the Women of Canada., 2003. www.equity.cochrane.org

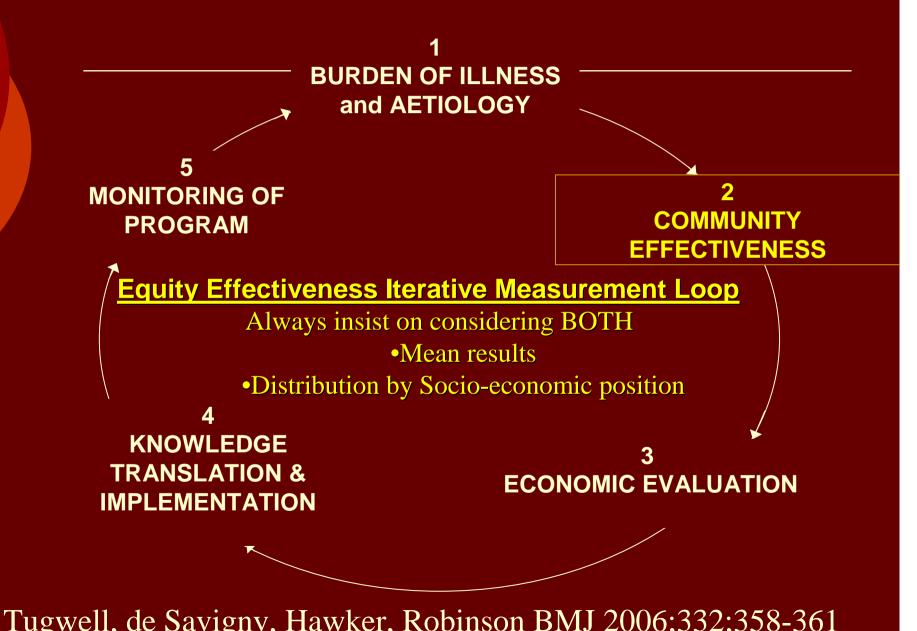


### Color Coded Mapping- MDG Monitoring eg Child Mortality

#### 2000



## Framework for an evidence base for policy on interventions in health care and public health systems



### Community-Effectiveness

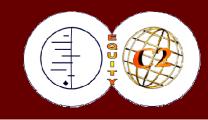
Community Screening/ x Efficacy x Health x Patient x Access = Diagnostic Provider Subject Effectiveness Accuracy Systems Adherence Compliance





Can it Work in Ideal Circumstances?

Does it work in Reality?

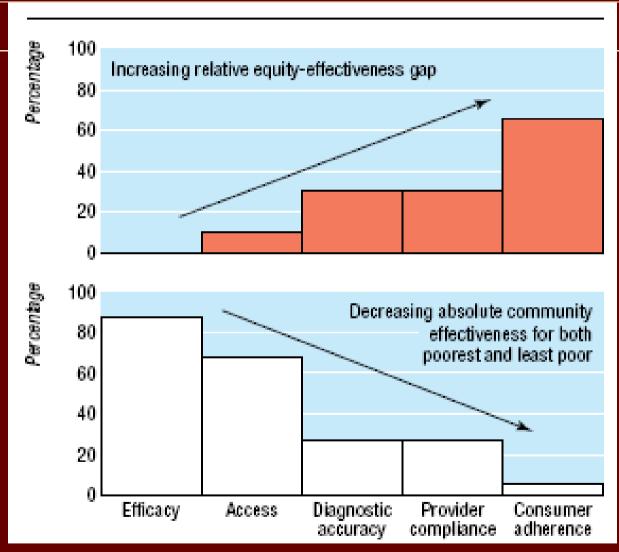


#### **Tuberculosis Treatment Disparities, Kenya**

DOTS for Rx of Smear +ve TB	Expected Efficacy	Access	Diagnostic accuracy	Consumer adherence	Provider compliance	Community Effective- ness	Least Poor: Poorest Ratio
Least poor (richest)	98%	80%	70%	80%	100%	44%	
Poorest	98%	40%	40%	53%	90%	7%	6

**Greater loss of efficacy in the poorest** 

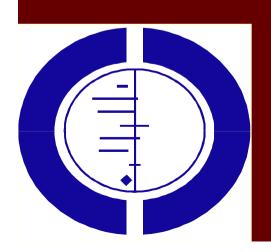
### Staircase effect: Efficacy loss is greatest for the disadvantaged



Community effectiveness = efficacy x access x diagnostic accuracy x provider compliance x consumer adherence

# Cochrane Health Equity Field and Campbell Equity Methods Group

- Aims to identify interventions that improve the health status of the poor and reduce health inequities
  - Priority-setting for Cochrane reviews
  - Methods to apply an equity lens
  - Series of systematic reviews on effective interventions
  - Equity evidence aid



Please join us! vivian.welch@uottawa.ca ptugwell@uottawa.ca emorris@uottawa.ca



### Oslo Equity meeting, August 2005



# Ottawa Equity Meeting, Feb 2007



www.equity.cochrane.org

Priority-setting for Cochrane reviews relevant to health equity in low and middle income countries- Cochrane Health Equity field and Cochrane Developing Countries Network

- Survey of Cochrane entities (>70% response rate)
- Assessing using Accountability for Reasonableness Framework
- Develop, implement and improve on priority-setting



# Methods: External validity 1 Equity plausibility algorithm

- When is it likely that an intervention will have different relative effects due to biology, context, genetics, culture, etc...
  - Methodology review of equity assessment
  - When are equity subgroup analyses believable?
  - Developing an algorithm to assess plausibility of differential equity effects



# Methods: External validity 2 Extrapolation

- When is there no good reason to expect that an intervention will not work in vulnerable populations?
  - Tamoxifen for early breast cancer
  - Antibiotics for otitis media



### Methods 3: Searching and databases

- Developing registry of equityrelevant trials in collaboration with the EPPI-Centre (UK)
- Collaborating on registry of databases and sources relevant to developing countries, led by Alison Weightman, Information Retrieval Methods Group



#### Series of systematic reviews

- Schoolfeeding (Kristjansson et al)
- Food security (Runnels et al)
- Malaria prevention (Attaran et al)
- Peer support for chronic disease (Doull et al)
- Access to tuberculosis treatment (Heidebrecht et al)



### Cochrane Equity "Evidence Aid"

#### One-stop shop for all systematic reviews related to health equity

cochrane collaboration - evidence aid

Evidence Aid: summaries relevant to natural disasters and healthcare e



This website highlights evidence relevant to the effects of interventions. Its aim is to help people making decisions about emergencies. The topics were originally identified as priorities by people in the regions affected by the 2004 tsunami, and possible, a structured summary ('Evidence Update') or another summary has been prepared, based on one or more Cochra Cochrane review exists, a link is given to the review in The Cochrane Library. If a suitable Cochrane review is not available topics in the BMJ's Clinical Evidence. (The inclusion of links to material from outside The Cochrane Collaboration does not it would like to comment or ask questions, please email reviews@cochrane.org.

A-Z index

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Infectious diseases

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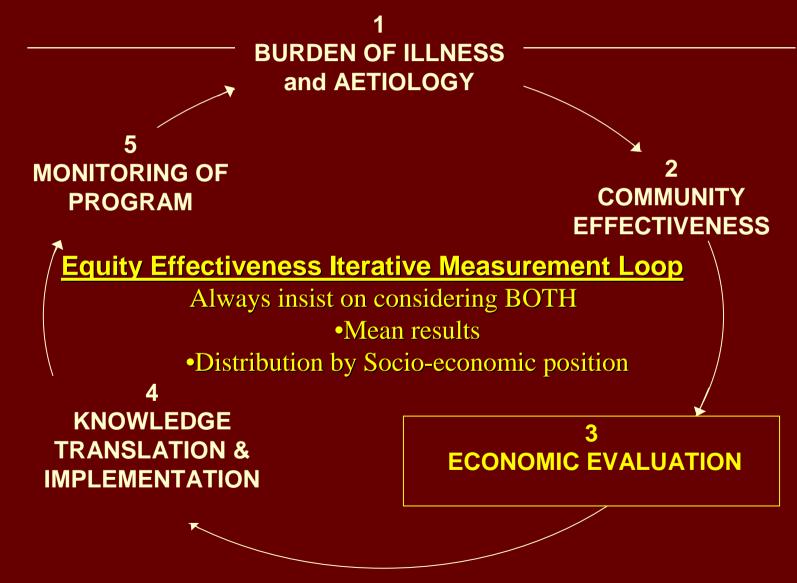
Mental health

Nutrition

Rehabilitation

Pregnancy and childbirth

## Framework for an evidence base for policy on interventions in health care and public health systems



Tugwell, de Savigny, Hawker, Robinson BMJ 2006:332:358-361

#### **Economic evaluation**

- Maximizing health across the whole population does not consider distribution
- Greater intensity and higher cost interventions may be needed to reach the poor (Arblaster 1996)
- Both policymakers and the public are willing to trade health for health equity (Wagstaff 1991)

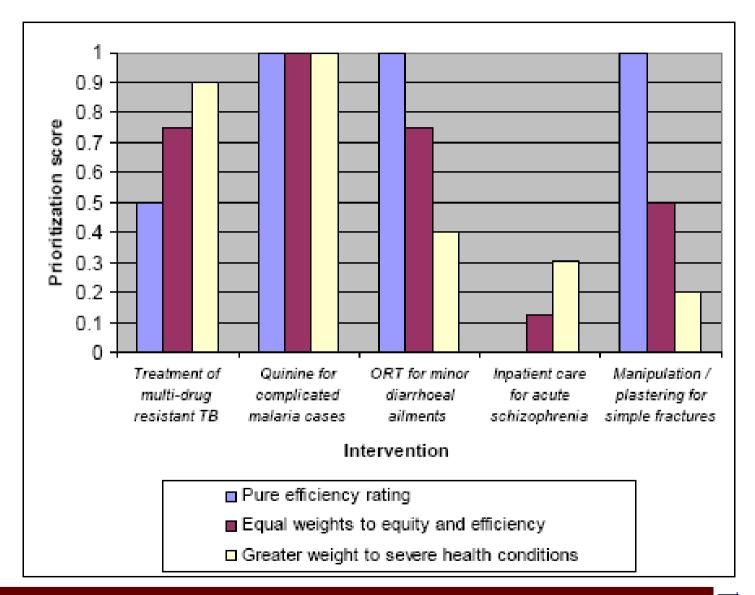


# Testing 4 methods to consider equity in economic evaluation

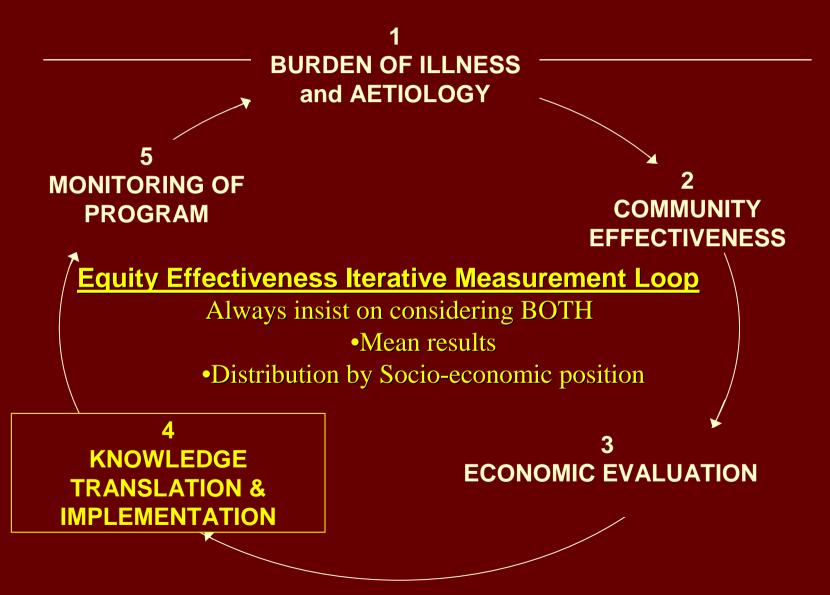
- Review of background information on equity
- 2. Health inequality impact assessment
- 3. Opportunity cost analysis of equity
- 4. Equity weighting of health outcomes



Figure 1: Impact of different weights for equity and efficiency criteria on prioritization decisions

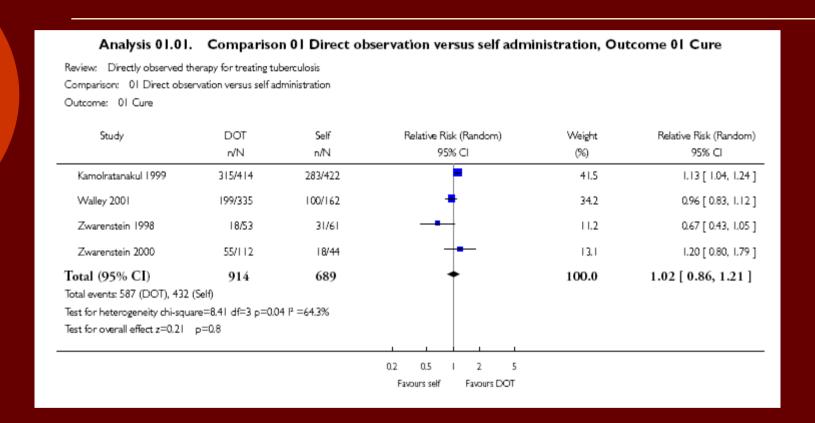


## Framework for an evidence base for policy on interventions in health care and public health systems



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# Research needs a friendly front end (FFE): EBAM= Evidence-based actionable message



Volmink J, Garner P. Directly observed therapy for treating tuberculosis. *Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews 2007, Issue 4. Art.* No.: CD003343. DOI: 10.1002/14651858.CD003343.pub3.







### WHO Collaborating Center for Knowledge Translation and Health Technology Assessment in Health Equity

- Improve access to health information
- Moves knowledge to action,
- Supports experiential knowledge
- Support evidence-based decision making
  - Research
  - Knowledge Translation
  - Institutional strengthening
  - Collaboration and partnership
  - Trans-disciplinarity
  - Mentoring and training



# Mutually beneficial partnerships between academia and NGOs

- Imagine if we could bring together the strengths of academia and NGOs...
  - Ottawa Inner City Health Initiative
  - Afriafya
  - Pontifica Universidad Catolica de Santiago de Chile- decision support
  - Mexico evidence-based nursing curriculum- INSP- Gladys Faba, Carlos Jimenez, et al

# Testing knowledge translation methods



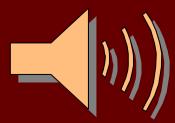
Decision Aids



Clinical practice guidelines



Stories/Narratives



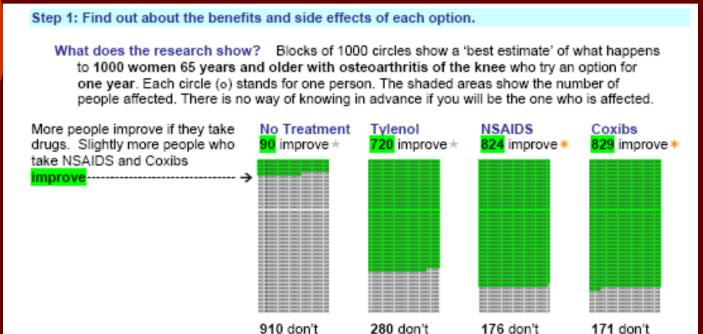
Media, ipod, youtube



# **Apoyos decisionales:**Evidencia de la Eficacia: Cochrane review, O'Connor et al

Efecto	Positivo	Negativo	Sin Efecto
Conocimientos	++++++		
Expectativas Realistas	++++		-
Conflicto Decisional	++++		_
Participación	++++		
Ansiedad	+		0000
Satisfacción	+		000
Adherencia a la alternativa	?	?	?
Calidad de vida	+		000

# Decision aids for patient and clinician dyads Benefits and harms



improve

Number with improved pain



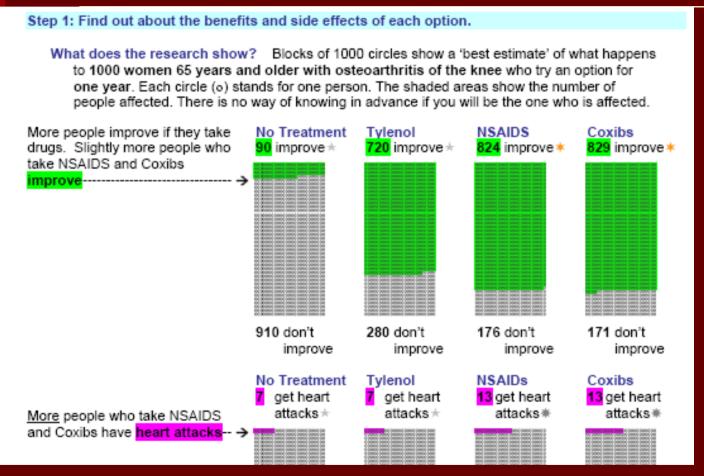
improve

improve

improve

#### Decision aids for patient and clinician dyads

#### Harms of heart attacks

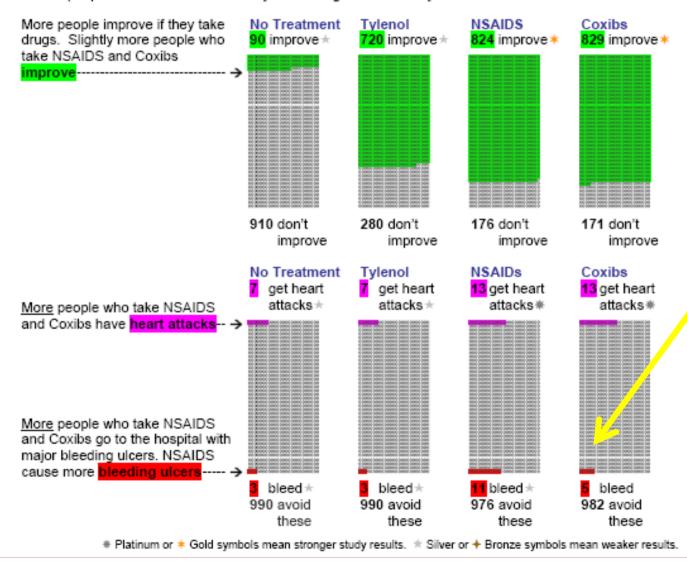




#### Decision aids for patient and clinician dyads

Step 1: Find out about the benefits and side effects of each option.

What does the research show? Blocks of 1000 circles show a 'best estimate' of what happens to 1000 women 65 years and older with osteoarthritis of the knee who try an option for one year. Each circle (o) stands for one person. The shaded areas show the number of people affected. There is no way of knowing in advance if you will be the one who is affected.



Bleeding ulcers







# Testing knowledge translation methods



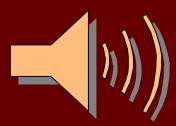
Decision Aids



Clinical practice guidelines



Stories/Narratives



Media- ipod, youtube

### Clinical preventive guidelines for Immigrants and Refugees in Canada

- Priority-setting
- GRADE approach
  - Benefits and harms
  - Directness (applicability)
  - Values and preferences
- Implementation



# Testing knowledge translation methods



Decision Aids



Clinical practice guidelines



Stories/Narratives



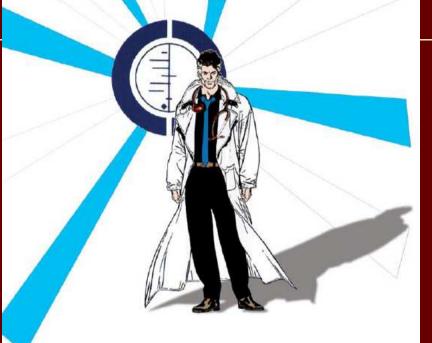
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### Springboard Story, Steve Denning

 In June 1995, a health worker in Kamana, Zambia logged on to the CDC web-site in Atlanta and got the answer to a question on how to treat malaria



### Dr. Goehrane



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#### RAMPA: Red Ayuda Médico Paciente de Argentina: Promover la calidad de atención en salud, mediante

acciones de interés común a pacientes y médicos y demás profesionales de la salud





### Ottawa Inner City Health (OICHI)

Can stories promote adherence to therapy in vulnerable populations?



Physician Tiina Podymow with Inner City ject participant Harland Fraser. (Photo by



Jean Marc Gingras (left) and Gilles St Jacques, participants in the Inner City Health Project, play cribbage as Wendy Muckle looks on. (Photo by Jana Chytil.)

# Testing knowledge translation methods



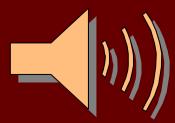
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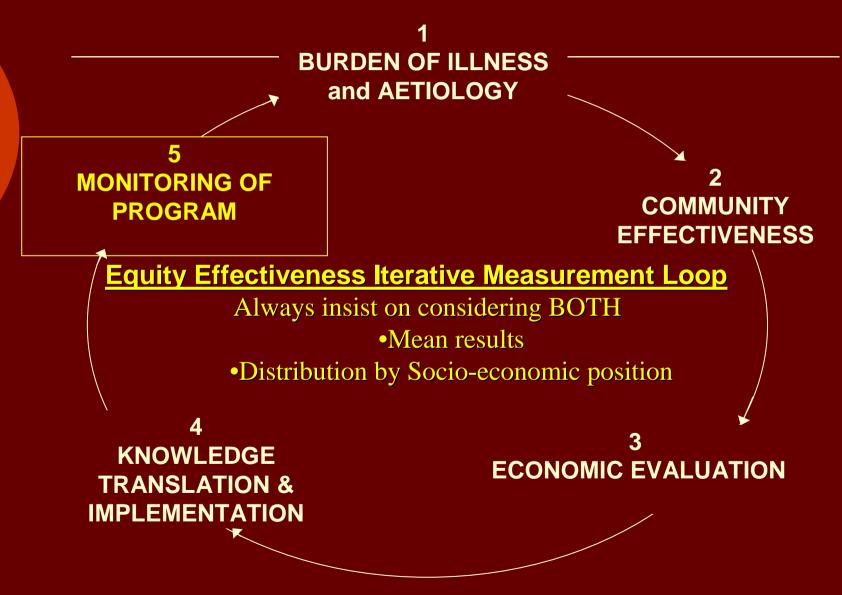
o Media- ipod, youtube...

# Online, searchable inventories of evidence, tailored for practitioners and policy-makers

#### www.rxforchange.ca

- Cochrane Effective Practice and Organization of Care (EPOC)
- What works to change professional behaviour?
- www.rxforpolicy.ca
  - Lavis et al searchable database of Cochrane reviews relevant to health systems, financial and governance interventions

### Framework for an evidence base for policy on interventions in health care and public health systems



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#### Conclusions and Challenges

- Always insist on assessing distribution of health effects!
- When can we extrapolate evidence to vulnerable populations?
- Priority-setting
- Testing knowledge translation and communication strategies



### **Muchas Gracias**

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