



Case Study: Joint Dissemination Project- getting research into policy in China

'Killer' fact

A project that facilitates the use of evidence-based research by providing findings in tailored, accessible format to an audience of policy makers and health providers.

Summary

The DFID funded Effective Health Care Research Consortium partner - the China Effective Health Care Network - run a highly successful joint project to disseminate evidence for health policy in China with the Ministry of Health (MOH), the World Health Organization (WHO), and the Chinese Journal of Evidence-Based Medicine. A monthly column in the journal titled 'Evidence-Based Health Policy-Making', publishes original systematic reviews on health policy and public health and summaries and commentaries by experts.

The aim of the project is to assist in promoting the use of evidence-based health to facilitate decision-making in health systems and public health in China. This regular publication targets an audience of policy makers and health providers allowing exposure to some of the latest health research findings in Chinese, in an accessible format.

To date 36 papers have been published covering a range of topics. The column has the highest download rate of all the columns in this journal showing an upward trend in interest in evidence-based policy-making in China.

Examples of titles covered:

The Evidence Base for Public Health Informing Policy at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Eliciting public preferences for healthcare: a systematic review of techniques

Factors determining the health financing systems: a descriptive systematic review

Evidence-based Review of the Intervention Strategies on the TB Prevention and Treatment among Migrants in China

This initiative came out of pressure within the MOH to make sure policies were evidence-based. Effective Health Care Research Consortium staff from Liverpool ran a workshop for the MOH in 2007 and a regional meeting was held to discuss dissemination. Out of these processes it was decided to obtain reliable summaries with policy makers' commentaries on them and publish in the Chinese Journal of Evidence-Based Medicine. What was interesting was the dialogue between Chinese evidence-based medicine specialists who run the journal, evidence-based public health specialists running the China Effective Health Care Network, and the MOH interested in evidence-based policies and how to interpret systematic reviews that are sometimes regarded as being foreign and of little relevance.

Impact

The Journal has a print run of 2000 copies per month. To date (March 2010) total clicks on the Chinese Journal of Evidence-Based Medicine website is 18,141, (average 518 per issue) and the column has been downloaded 11,167 times in total (average 319 downloads per issue). Column also accessible on the biomedical databases CNKI (<http://www.global.cnki.net/grid20/index.htm>), WANFANG(www.wanfangdata.com), VIP (<http://dx2.cqvip.com/>)

This is the first and only journal column of its kind in China and is a useful reference for anyone involved in evidence-informed policy making and contributes towards medical reform in China. It allows researchers to improve the quality of their studies by methods and example.



A reader with the Journal

Further information

Chinese Electronic Periodical services: <http://www.ceps.com.tw/ec/ecJnlIntro.aspx?Jnliid=2574>

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