

SCIENCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Resources for Multicultural Mental Health



Purpose

To develop multicultural mental health information resources to help address issues of cultural diversity and to improve the capacity of knowledge exchange about multicultural mental health and mental health policy in Canada.

Who Will Benefit

- Primary Health care practitioners and other frontline personnel
- Consumers, patients and their families and caregivers
- Community and service delivery organizations
- Health administrators, policy makers and planners

Methods

An integrated knowledge translation or action-research approach will be used for this project. The resource development process will follow 6 main steps:

1. Create a national network to include representatives from the commission advisory committees, community organizations, government agencies and other stakeholders;
2. Survey the needs of potential end-users regarding scientific information on impact of cultural diversity on mental health care, promotion and stigma reduction;
3. Conduct a comprehensive scan and review of existing models for addressing cultural diversity in mental health care both in Canada and in other multicultural countries, including available knowledge resources, and associated methods of delivery;

4. Identify gaps and develop specific materials addressing major ethnocultural communities and vulnerable populations (including refugees);
5. Develop web-based delivery of resource materials; and
6. Deliver and assess the impact of the materials on a range of end-users, including consumers, family care providers, professionals, and policy makers.

Organizational Structure

- **Administrative team** - responsible for the implement, follow up and all day to day activities related to the project.
- **Steering Committee** - multidisciplinary policy level committee, sets goals and priorities for the project.
- **Advisory board** - multidisciplinary, diverse ethnocultural groups of professionals, consumer organizations and community organizations provide advice and input into the implementation process.

Develop multicultural mental health information resources to help address issues of cultural diversity.



Leaders and Partners

Partners:

Ethnocultural community organizations; consumer organizations; professionals and multicultural service delivery institutions such as ACCÉSS (Alliance of Cultural Communities for Equality in Health and Social Welfare); PROMIS (Promotion, Intégration, Société nouvelle); South Asian Women's Community Centre (SAWCC); Ami-Quebec; PRAIDA (Programme régional d'aide et d'intégration des demandeurs d'asile); RIVO (Réseau d'intervention auprès des personnes ayant subi la violence organisée)

Project Committee:

Laurence Kirmayer (lead); Howard Chodos (MH Strategy Director); Soma Ganesan; Jaswant Guzder; Hung Tat Lo; Kwame MacKenzie; Cécile Rousseau; Brenda Leung (ARO)

