

How to accelerate clinical research: Preliminary thoughts and discussion

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We're flipping the script on the NIH/NIDCD updates at SRCLD! NIH/NIDCD updates will be provided as an electronic handout. Topics from the handout can be discussed with the presenter at any time throughout the conference. General topics will be highlighted at the beginning of this session. The bulk of the session will be spent considering how we, as a field, can accelerate clinical research. Current research is devoted to developing evidence-based innovations (EBIs) that improve a person's health and quality of life. For impact on people's lives, these EBIs need to be adopted in clinical practice and everyday life. Unfortunately, wide-scale adoption of EBIs is a lengthy process that rarely occurs, limiting the impact of clinical research. It is estimated that it takes 17 years for effective innovations to move from research into clinical practice. Moreover, reports suggest that people only receive about 50% of recommended health care procedures. This difference between what is known from research evidence versus what is practiced in clinical settings is referred to as the research-to-practice gap or the know-do gap. How can this gap be narrowed and how can the timeline from early-stage research to adoption in clinical practice and everyday life be accelerated? The crux of the solution is beginning with the end in mind and keeping that end goal as a primary focus throughout all stages of the research process. The speaker will offer some preliminary ideas on possible actions for clinical researchers, while also leaving plenty of time for audience ideas and discussion. Bring your ideas and let's generate some solutions to narrow the research-to-practice gap!