Strengthening Health Promotion Research

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IUHPE Workshop on Health Promotion
13 October 2020
Problems of HP Research

- **Founding documents**: little mention of research
- **Discourse**: founded on values and principles
- **Practice**: promotes changes at various levels
- **Practitioners**: coming from a variety of professional backgrounds

- No well defined knowledge base
- No widely agreed knowledge development methods
- Inappropriate research funding mechanisms
A Productive Global Research Field

• Research Journals
  • Global Health Promotion; Health Promotion International; and others

• Graduate research-oriented programs
  • PhD in Health promotion and Health Behavior, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada

• Departments in higher education institutions
  • National Taiwan Normal University

• Research Units in universities
  • Unit for Health Promotion Research, University of Southern Denmark
A potluck development model

Health Promotion Research

- Political Sciences
- Public Administration
- Psychology
- Education
- Sociology
- Nursing
- Social Epidemiology
- Community Interventions
- Salutogenesis
- Equity
- Empowerment
- Healthy Settings
- Public Health
- Healthy Settings
- Empowerment
- Community Interventions
- Salutogenesis
- Equity
- Psychology
- Public Administration
- Political Sciences
Fig. 3: Two-component solution of frequent words in health promotion based on their co-occurrence among journal ...
Vibrant health promotion research to sustain health promotion
Cumulative knowledge about Health Promotion Systems

• Each system is unique but there might be patterns cutting across systems

• A cumulative knowledge base about health promotion would:
  • Report on patterns
  • Theorize on the mechanisms that produce those patterns
  • Find out ways to trigger desired mechanisms according to patterns

• Conditions for a cumulative knowledge base
  • Reinforce research structures that identify as health promotion
  • Organise a community of health promotion researchers
  • Develop and share research practices specific to health promotion research
The Handbook of Health Promotion Research

• Two partners:
  • The Unesco Chair on Global Health and Education (D. Jourdan, France)
  • The Canada Research Chair on Community Approaches and Health Inequality (L. Potvin, Canada)

• A proposition for defining health promotion systems as 4 categories of practices
  • Practices of individuals and populations in view of their health
  • Practices of stakeholders who intervene to improve health
  • Practices of policy makers and institutions that influence the determinants of health
  • Practices of researchers and innovators through which evidence-based guidelines are made

• A process to map health promotion research practices
  • A global open call for submissions for research report about health promotion practices
  • Special invitation to “leaders” in the field
Preliminary Table of Content

• Mapping health promotion research
  • What kind of health promotion research do researchers do
  • How is this research conducted

• A framework for health promotion research (Based on seminars with invited contributors)
  • Health promotion research as a social practice
  • Epistemological issue in health promotion research
  • Ethical considerations in health promotion research

• Doing health promotion research (Developed by the editors)
  • Paradigms
  • An ethical framework
  • Research strategies
  • Sharing research results

Cross cutting issues