A16 – ‘New Idea and No Idea’: a resource to help front-line workers and managers in aged/dementia care understand and plan knowledge translation activities

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Local initiatives for improving evidence-based practice require good planning, especially when knowledge translation (KT) activities are an ‘add on’ for a time-poor workforce. Many frontline staff in dementia/aged care are keen to implement new innovations but need educational support to target and plan a KT activity. This project addressed a gap for plain English KT resources suitable for a diverse range of stakeholders in dementia/aged care in Australia, in two main ways:

- Adapt the ‘Innovation to Implementation’ (I2I) KT planning tool (originally developed by the Canadian Mental Health Commission 2012, and revised with permission) for the Australian dementia and aged care setting. Titled Innovation to Implementation-Australia (I2I-A), the seven-step planning tool also includes three new topical sections not in the original: Is This Innovation KT Ready, Readiness For Change, Disseminating New Knowledge.
- Develop a two-hour educational workshop, featuring the new planning tool, as part of the knowledge transfer workshop series run by the Dementia Training Study Centres (DTSC) in partnership with the Dementia Collaborative Research Centres, Australia. Titled New Idea and No Idea, the workshop gives information on background principles in KT, change management, and overviews of use of the I2I-A.

The New Idea and No Idea workshop featuring the I2I-A is being rolled out nationally. To date, more than 120 care staff and managers in dementia and aged care have participated in six workshops in three locations (Canberra, Sydney, Brisbane). While initiatives using the I2I-A cannot be reported on yet, early feedback suggests the I2I-A fills a gap by meeting the needs of practitioners planning local innovation. A companion website resource is currently under construction.