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- I have no affiliation (financial or otherwise) with a pharmaceutical, medical device or communications organization.

# Disclosure Statement

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# KNOWLEDGE TRANSLATION STRATEGIES FOR ACTION – LET’S TALK ABOUT THE FUTURE OF PUBLIC HEALTH SURVEILLANCE!

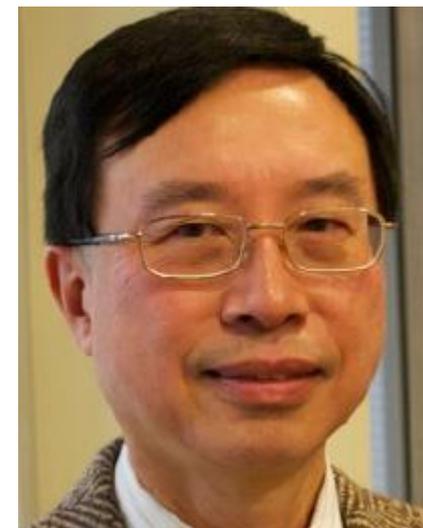
*Collaborator Session presented by:* **Canadian Alliance for Regional Risk Factor Surveillance (CARRFS)**

## Dr. Bernard Choi

Senior Research Scientist

Public Health Agency of Canada

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Public Health 2019 Conference, Apr 30, 2019, Ottawa, Ontario





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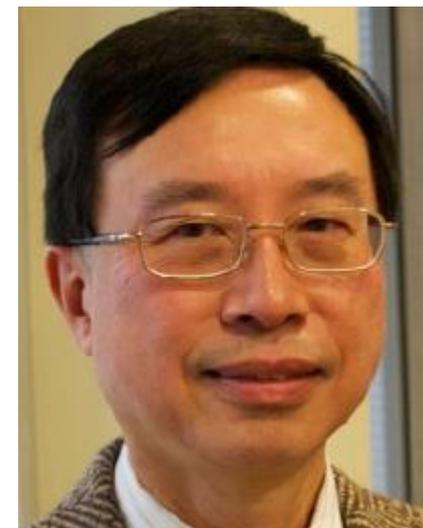
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Action

Action

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• Knowledge for Action

Action

Action

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Knowledge for Action

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# Barriers of Knowledge Transfer



## Three Problems

- Volume of knowledge: 17,000 new biomedical books/year + 30,000 biomedical journals
- Complexity of knowledge: complicated designs, high power statistics, technical jargons
- Knowledge  $\neq$  Action

# Basic Principles of Knowledge Transfer



## Knowledge Transfer

= integration + simplification



# Gap between science and policy



My policy-maker doesn't understand me..



© fran@francartoons.com

Can you come back with that 3 year study summarised in six bullet points in PowerPoint?

# Gap between science and policy

## 5 Ways to bridge the gap between science and policy

1. Communication problem: complex science → visually interesting presentations
2. Time problem: a new breed of “translational scientists”
3. Taking initiative: science must be actively communicated and marketed, not merely disseminated through publications
4. Precise recommendations: Journal papers offer list of recommendations for actions, not “our results indicate that further research is needed”
5. Encourage all scientists to publish their findings in MEDLINE searchable journals

# Knowledge to Action

Knowledge  
Generation



Knowledge  
Transfer

Knowledge  
Use

**Knowledge** → **Action**

- **Knowledge Management:** the process of creating, sharing, and using knowledge for action
- Knowledge Generation
- Knowledge Transfer
- Knowledge Use

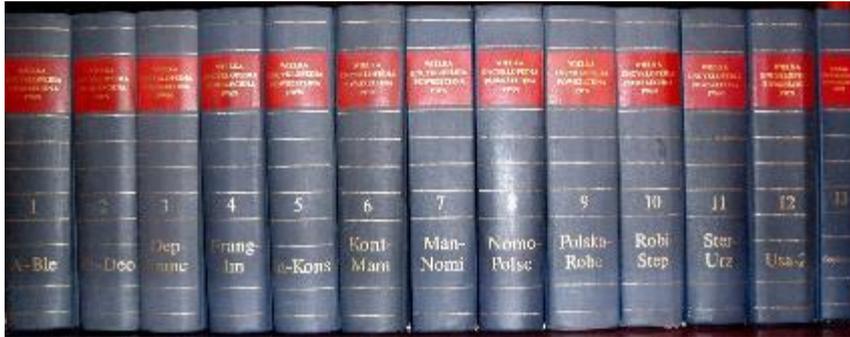
## 12 Steps from Knowledge to Action

Knowledge Generation	Knowledge Transfer	Knowledge Use
1. Credible Design	5. Relevant Content	9. Accessible Information
2. Accurate Data	6. Appropriate Translation	10. Readable Message
3. Sound Analysis	7. Timely Dissemination	11. Motivated User
4. Comprehensive Synthesis	8. Modulated Release	12. Rewarding Outcome

# 12 Steps from Knowledge to Action

Knowledge Generation	Knowledge Transfer	Knowledge Use
	5. Relevant Content	9. Accessible Information
	6. Appropriate Translation	10. Readable Message
	7. Timely Dissemination	11. Motivated User
	8. Modulated Release	12. Rewarding Outcome

## 5. Relevant Content



### Methods of Information Dissemination

- Encyclopaedia approach
- Fire alarm approach

### Composite health index

- Dow Jones Index
- Summary Health Index

## 6. Appropriate Translation



### Health Proverbs

- From experiences of our ancestors
- “An apple a day keeps the doctor away” (1866)

### New science-based Health Proverbs

- For our future generations
- “One and a half apple a day keeps the doctor away”?

### Health Songs, Story Telling

## 7. Timely Dissemination



### Timely = ongoing

- Develop 365 health indicators for reporting to the general public after the evening news, one indicator a day

### Chronic Disease Clock

- # chronic disease deaths so far this year
- # chronic disease deaths since midnight last night

Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC)

**CCDPC**  
CENTRE FOR CHRONIC DISEASE  
PREVENTION AND CONTROL

Home  
What's new  
About CCDPC  
CCDPC Major Programs  
Health Topics  
Surveillance  
International Activities  
Conferences and Events

**CCDPC Mission Statement**  
"The CCDPC works with stakeholders at all levels to provide pan-Canadian and international leadership in chronic disease prevention and control through integrated policy and program development, surveillance, and knowledge development and dissemination".

**"What are chronic diseases?" and discover the chronic disease burden in Canada.**

**Chronic Disease Clock**

Chronic Disease related deaths so far this year	158,102
Chronic Disease related deaths so far today (as of 12:00 midnight)	206
Current estimated Canadian Population	31,752,842

[Click here to see a more detailed view of the Chronic Disease clock.](#)

## 7. Timely Dissemination

### PAHO Chronic Disease Clock, 2007 Washington DC



### Region of the Americas

NCD deaths this year

**2,579,530**

NCD deaths today

**3,624**

## 8. Modulated Release

### Prioritize information/ Disseminate in stages

- World Health Report 2002, Chapter 4

#### SAFE

- Smoking, Alcohol, Food, Exercise

#### COPS

- Cholesterol, Obesity, blood Pressure, Stress

#### HARM

- Heart disease, Abnormal growth, Respiratory disease, Mental disorder

# 12 Steps from Knowledge to Action

Knowledge Generation	Knowledge Transfer	Knowledge Use
		9. Accessible Information
		10. Readable Message
		11. Motivated User
		12. Rewarding Outcome

## 9. Accessible Information

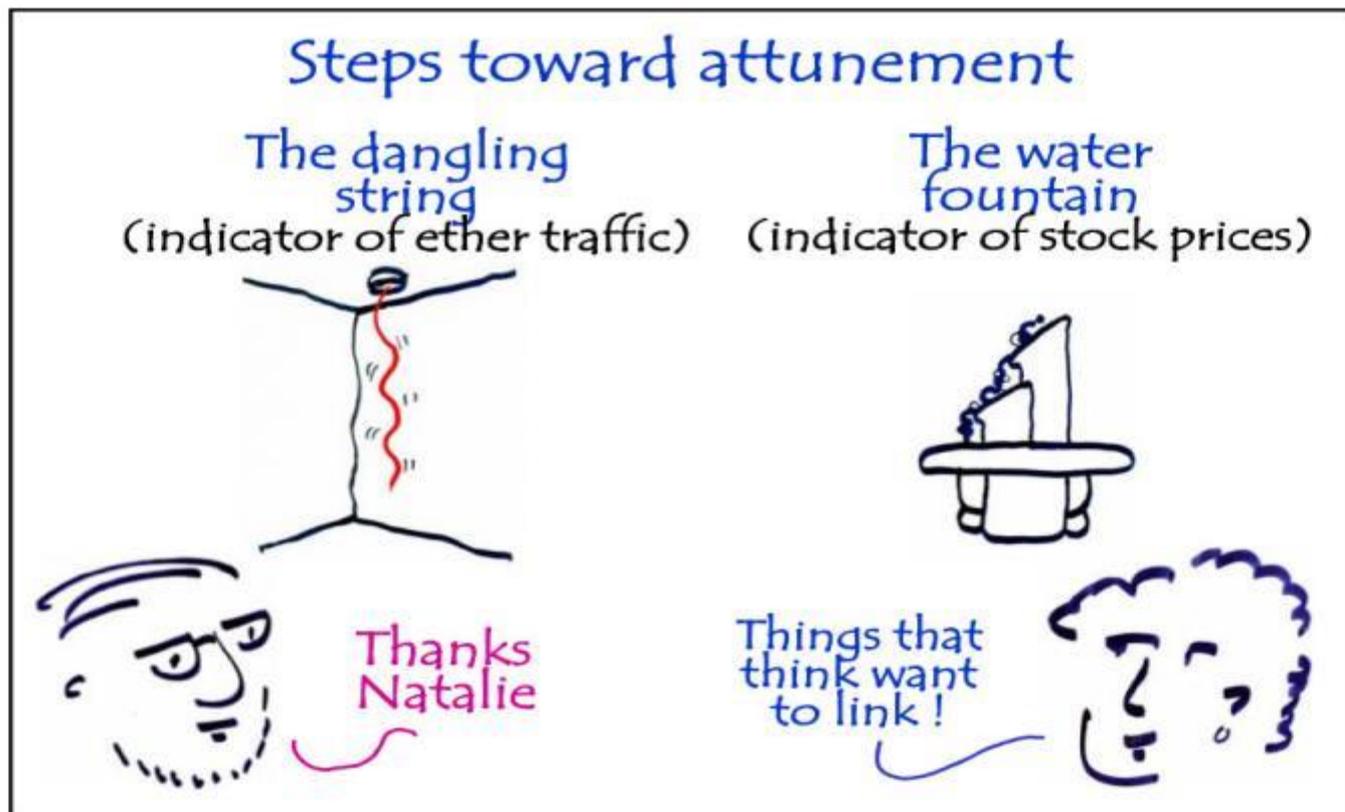
### Publish scientific findings in accessible formats



- 2019 Google search = 7,650,000,000 websites = **43,662 years**
- On line  $\neq$  accessible
- 2005 Google search on “Health + Information” = 103,000,000 websites
- 1 min/website, 8-hr day, 365 days a year = **588 years**
- 2016 Google search = 294,000,000 websites = **1678 years**
- 2018 Google search = 3,350,000,000 websites = **19,120 years**

## 9. Accessible Information

### Xerox's Research Center Palo Alto, California



## 10. Readable Message

**Message understood by various audiences**

**Policy makers**

- Extra burden on the society that can be removed by eliminating tobacco use for 1 year in Canada
- Total savings = \$ 16.5 billion
- Number of deaths avoided = 47,000



## 10. Readable Message

**Message understood by various audiences**

**Teenagers**

- Boys might be concerned about the negative effects of smoking on physical fitness
- Girls might be more concerned about the negative effects on aesthetics



# 11. Motivated Users

## Create awareness of using knowledge



- The key is to create an atmosphere in which knowledge users are interested in and seeking out information, rather than being provided with unwanted information

# 12. Rewarding Outcomes

## Project Big Life online calculators

[www.projectbiglife.ca](http://www.projectbiglife.ca)

1. Life expectancy
2. Heart & stroke risk
3. Sodium intake
4. Death risk in nursing home (coming)



## Noticeable impact

## Prediction models

- Computer software to calculate probability of risks of diseases and death, based on input concerning personal lifestyle, demographics, diet and smoking

# Look to the Future

## • ΛΟΟΚ ΤΟ ΤΗΕ ΦΥΤΥΡΕ

(Symbol)

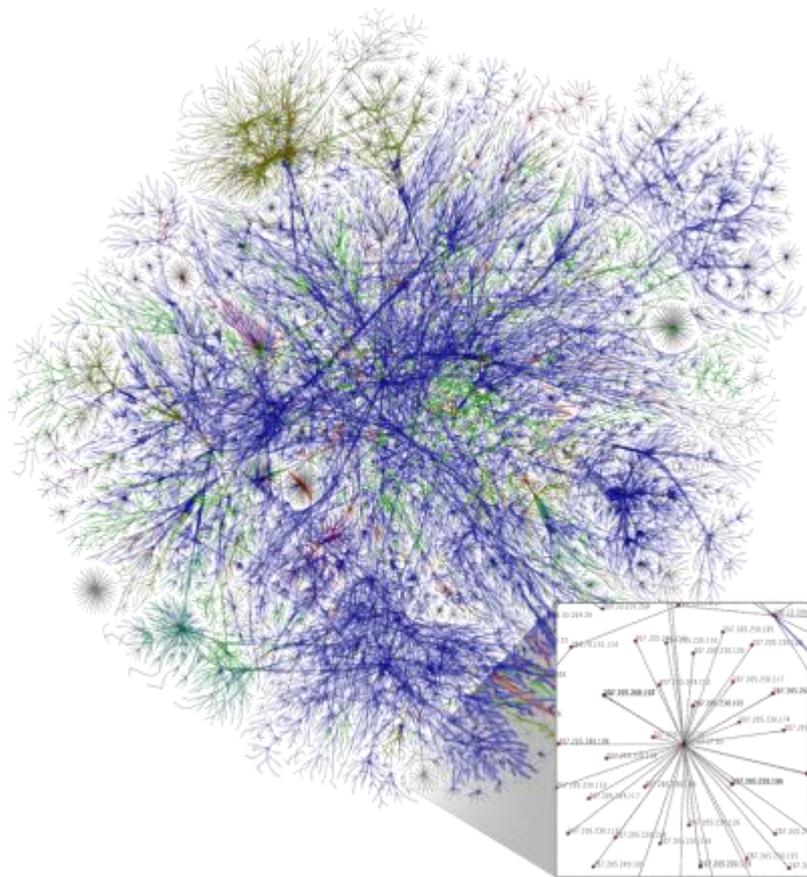


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(Webdings)

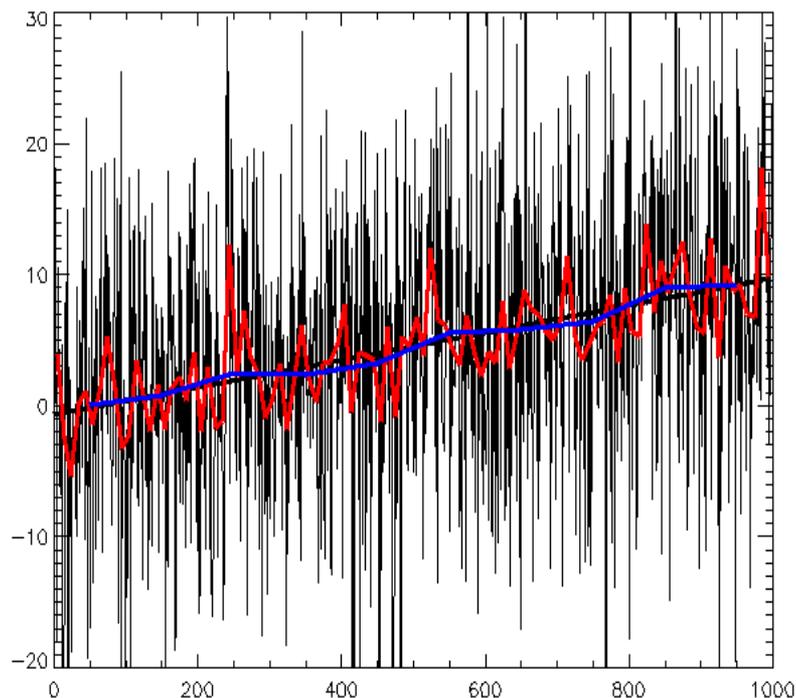
# Computer Technology



Computer technology such as the Internet can improve information dissemination

A visualization of routing paths through a portion of the Internet. Each line connects two Internet Protocol (IP) addresses.

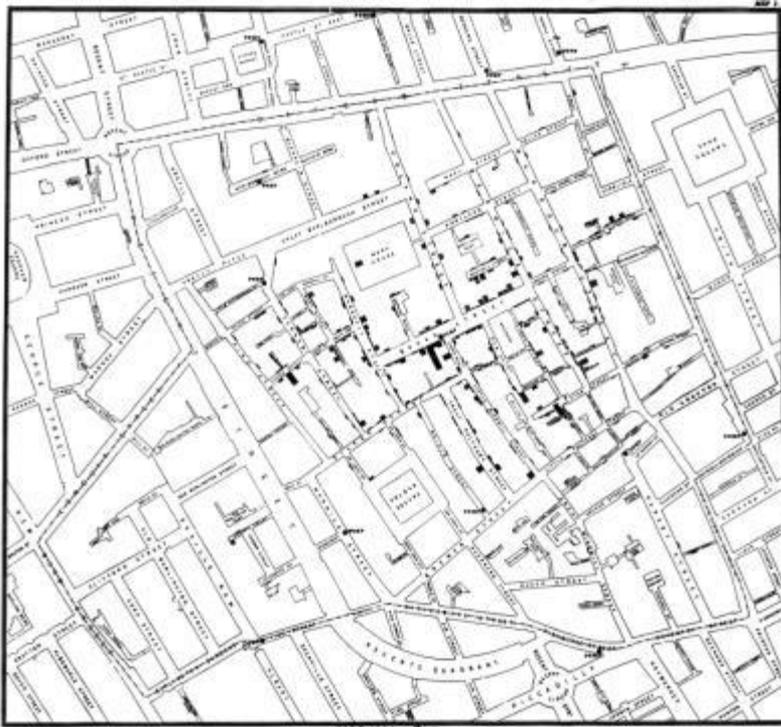
# Improved Statistical Analysis



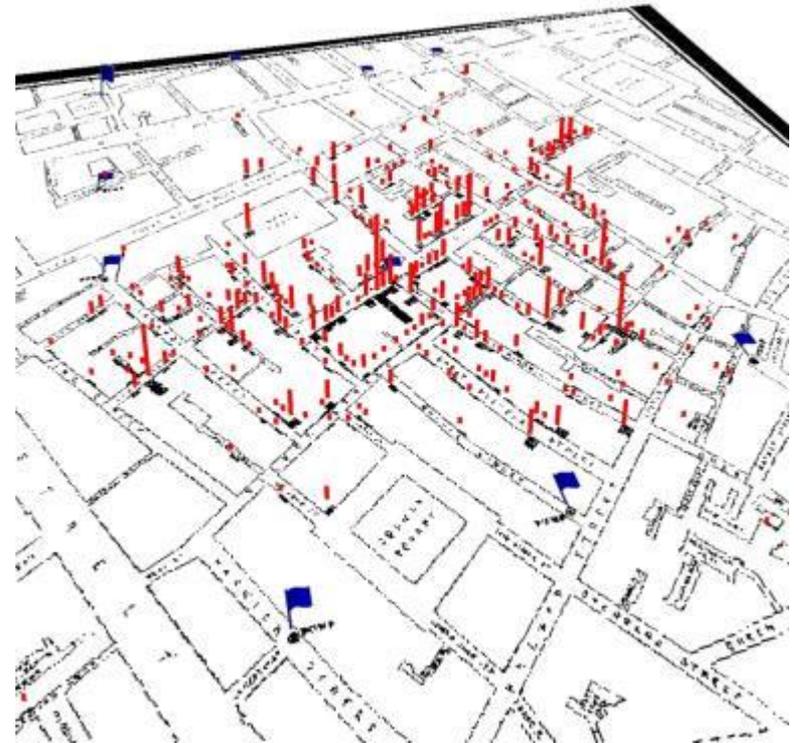
New methods of statistical analysis ... time series methods, geographical and spatial methods can improve data visualisation.

Time series: random data plus trend,  
with best-fit line and different  
smoothings

# Data Visualisation



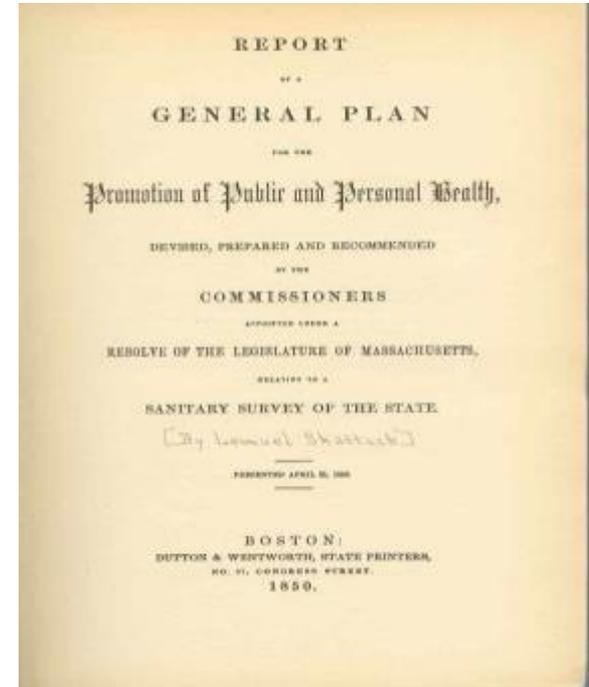
Original map made by John Snow in 1854.  
Cholera cases are highlighted in black



3D Visualization of analysis.  
Blue flags, water pumps;  
red bars, deaths at that address

# Improved Methods of Information Dissemination

Hard copy reports have been used since 1850. There is a need for new methods of information dissemination ... **paperless or electronic media.**



Massachusetts Report on the Promotion of Public and Personal Health, 1850

# Information Technology

Social media, mobile devices and smart wearable and other IT devices provide new ways for knowledge transfer.

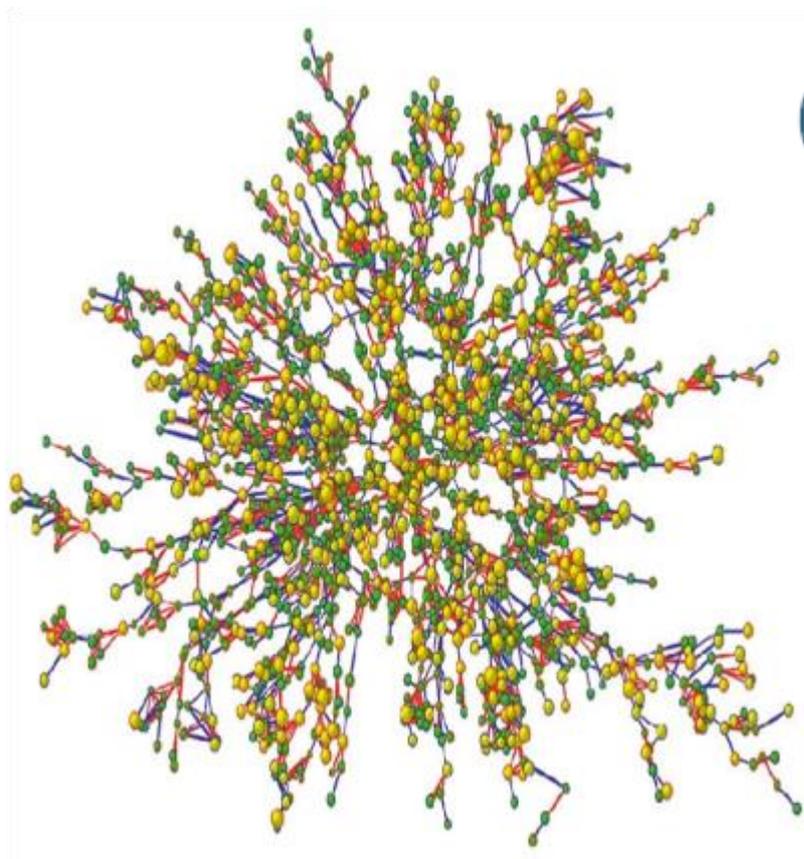
## Social Media



Fibit Flex Wireless Activity + Sleep Wristband, Black from Fibit  
★★★★☆ • 16,684 customer reviews | 1300+ answered questions **#1 Best Seller** in **Wearables**



# Networks to Disseminate Knowledge



# AMNET

AMERICAS NETWORK FOR CHRONIC  
DISEASE SURVEILLANCE



A map of a social network of 2,200 people (NEJM, 2007)

# Clinical Public Health

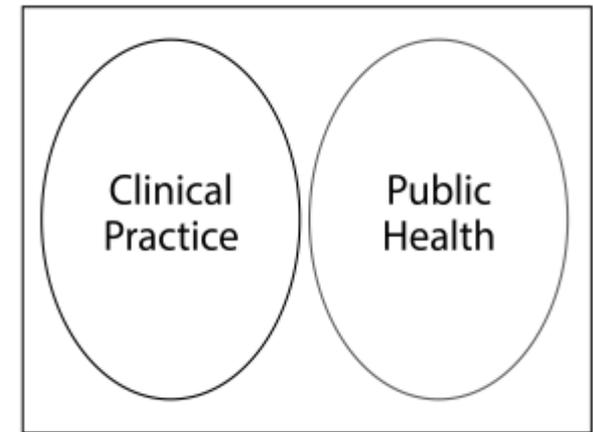
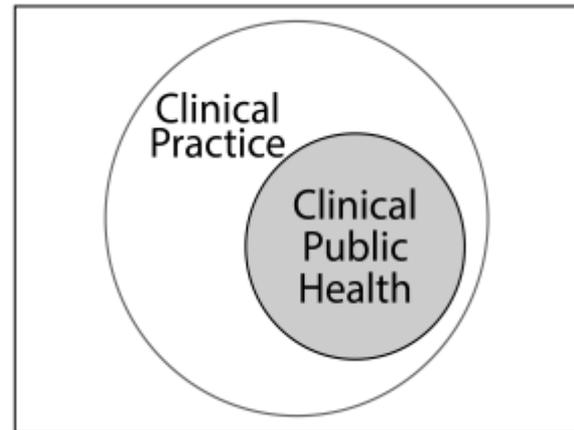
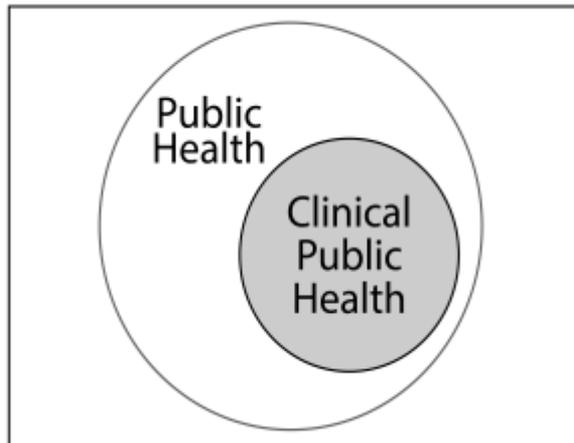
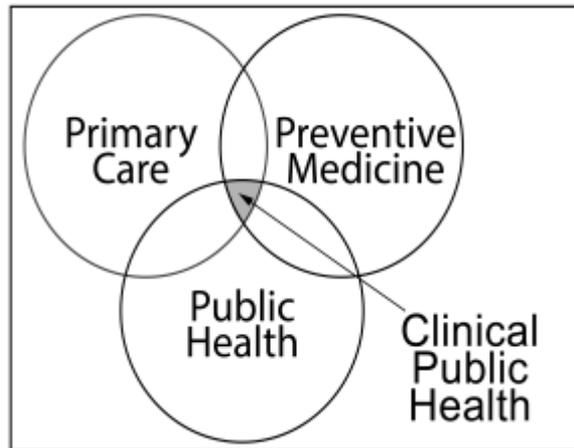
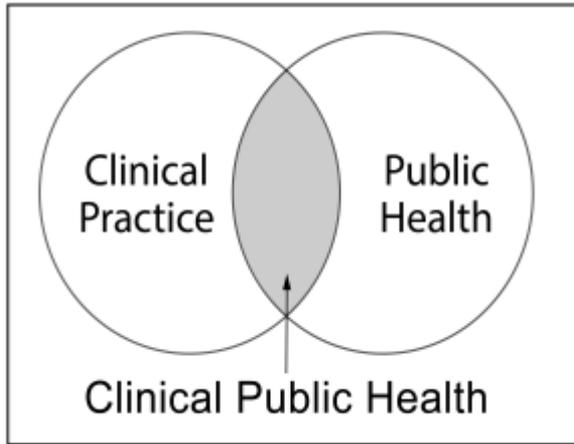


## Collaboration of Clinical Practitioners with Public Health Practitioners

- In 2012, a new **Clinical Public Health** Division at the University of Toronto
- From 2015-2018, 47 professors in the Division conducted a Delphi Survey to find out what “Clinical Public Health” is.



# Clinical Public Health



# Education or Legislation?

## Education

- An enlightening process that includes storytelling, discussion, teaching and training

## Legislation

- A process of making laws
- Includes taxation

- **Education** - has an essential role in raising awareness about healthier lifestyle choices
- **Legislation** - if education fails or is simply not seen as sufficient or appropriate

# Screw Driver or Hammer?



## Screw Driver



## Hammer



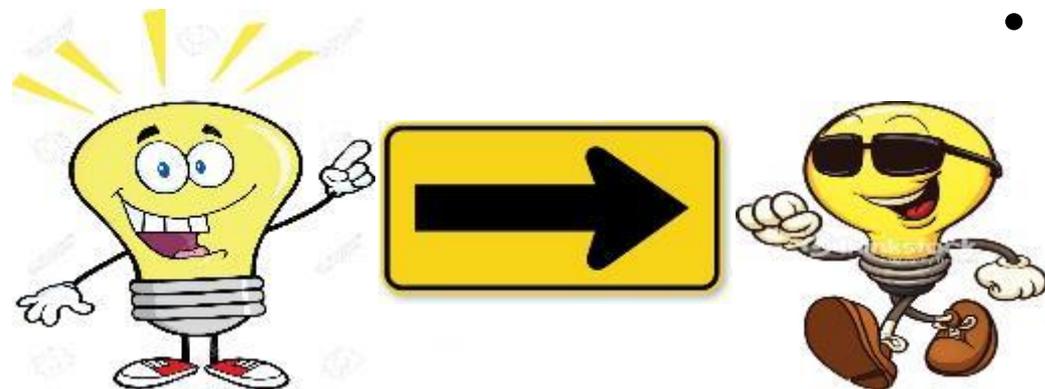
## Education or Legislation?



- **Education** is like a screw driver - it takes more time and effort but the screw will stay longer
- **Legislation** is like a hammer - the effect is instant as the nail goes into the wall right away, but this may not last long.



# Conclusion



- We need a wide range of tools to transfer knowledge to action



