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Faculty of Health Sciences

Fakulteit Gesondheidswetenskappe
Lefapha la Disaense tša Maphelo

Evidence Ecosystem Framework : Enhancing Impact and Visibility of Research

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Make today matter



Overview

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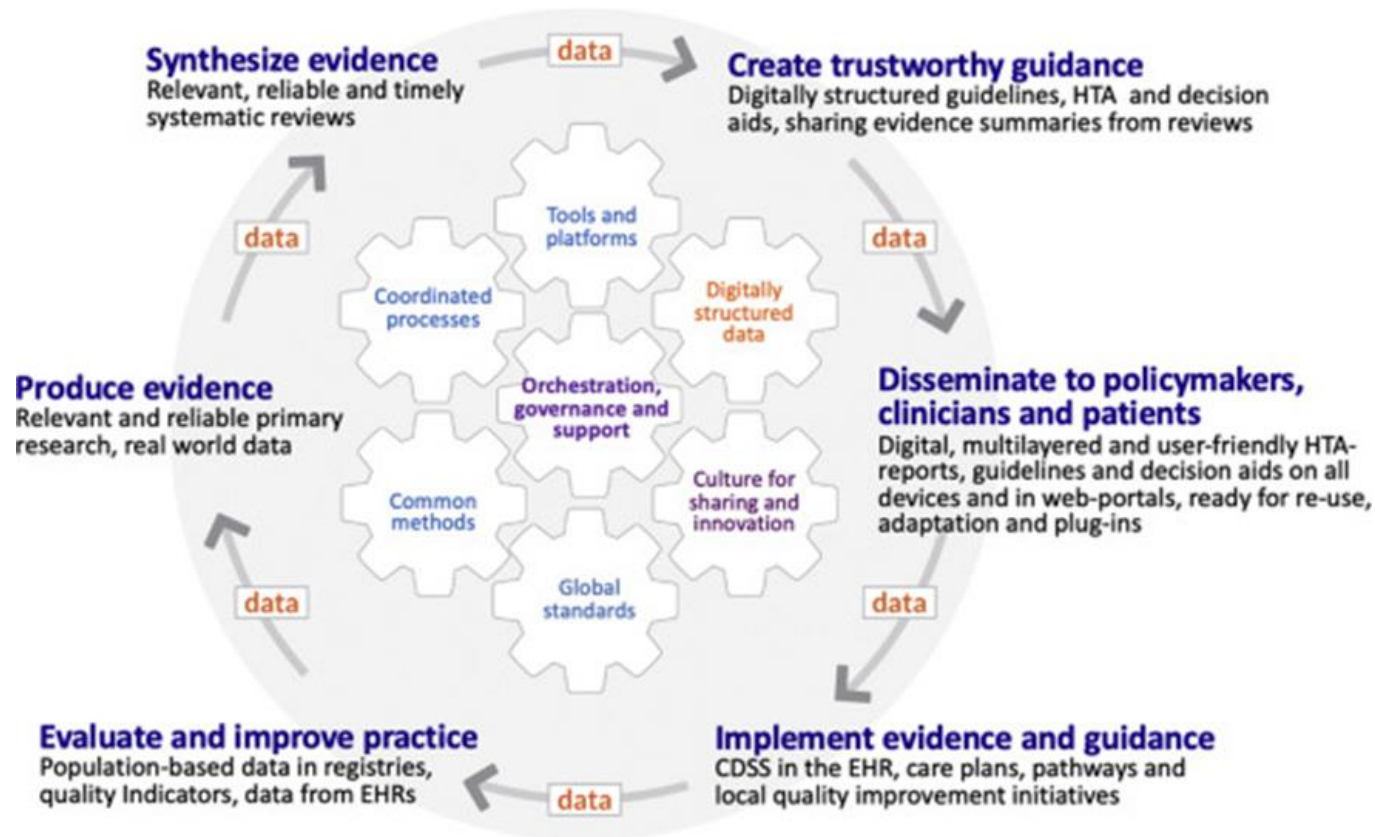
- Background
- Use of evidence ecosystem framework
 - Significance of scholarly publishing in open access journals
 - Researcher and scholars' role
 - Research office's role
 - Challenges faced by our researchers and students
 - Possible solutions

Background

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- Evidence-informed approach to policy-making and implementation is, at its core, about better decisions for a better future
- It is grounded in principles of equity and equality, of accountability and **transparency**
- **Transparency principles** - researchers/evidence producers are required to efficiently to share their research findings and spread of information across the evidence ecosystem
- Need for more support programs aimed at enabling evidence producers and support **better dissemination of research**
- Library services support to Scholarly Publishing

Use of evidence ecosystem framework- significance of evidence dissemination



Vandvik, P. O., & Brandt, L. (2020). Future of evidence ecosystem series: evidence ecosystems and learning health systems: why bother?. *Journal of clinical epidemiology*, 123, 166-170.

Role of the Faculty Research Office

Support researchers:

- Raising awareness of research focus to address local and global health priorities;
- Research capacity building;
- Research guidelines;
- Assistance with sourcing and matching with local and international collaborators;
- Assistance with grant funding applications;
- Grant writing;
- Grant management;
- Research equipment;
- Research software and
- more.

Assist researchers with journal APC fee negotiations

Challenges

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- **HS Open access journal often have high APC fees**
- **Library work on a refund basis**, normally 50% if there are local co-authors from South African Institutions but could be 60% if there are international authors
 - This does not work for departments that are still building their research capacity
 - Doesn't work for our early career and emerging academics
 - New staff struggle to get assistance and are discouraged to publish under UP
 - Subsidy does not always get back to the researcher
 - Researcher do not always remember to claim their 50/60% back
 - We are not offering enough incentive to publish

Possible Solutions

- Review the policy for journal APC fee support
 - Collaboration between DRI, Faculty Research Offices and Library Services
- Faculty level:
 - Remove barriers to publishing in Open Access journals
 - Offer 100% support for new staff
 - Offer 100% support for postgraduate students
 - Encourage publication in quantile one journals

Thank you

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