DIGNITY OF RISK SYMPOSIUM – AVRIL 29, 2026

How can we implement and sustain innovations that promote the dignity of risk for older people?

KNOWLEDGE SYNTHESIS

MAIN KEY CONCEPTS

Innovation: Any idea, practice, or object perceived as new (rather than intervention).[1]

Adoption: The intention, initial decision, or action to try or employ an innovation.[2]

Implementation: Specified set of activities designed to put into practice an activity or program of known dimensions.[3] Carrying out of planned, intentional activities that aim to turn evidence and ideas into policies and practices that work for people in the real world. It is about putting a plan into action; the 'how' as well as the 'what'.[4]

Scaling up: Process of extending practices, interventions, or programs that have demonstrated their effectiveness to a larger scale, often at the regional, national, or international level.[5] Systematic evidence-informed and ethically congruent process whose aim is to increase the intended impacts of an intervention that has proven effective for improving quality in care and the equitable welfare of individuals and populations.[6]

Sustainability: The extent to which a newly implemented innovation is maintained or institutionalized within a service setting's ongoing, stable operations.[7]

Engaging: Attracting and involving appropriate individuals in the implementation and use of the intervention through a combined strategy of social marketing, education, role modeling, training, and other similar activities.[1]

Adapting: Modify the innovation and/or the elements of the practice for optimal fit and integration into work processes[1]

Shared decision-making: Collaborative process that involves a person and their healthcare professional working together to reach a joint decision about care.[8]

Person-centred approach: Approach treating persons as individuals and as equal partners in the business of healing; it is personalised, coordinated and enabling.[9]

Risk: The effect of uncertainty on objectives where the consequences could vary from loss and detriment to gain and benefit.[10]

Dignity of risk: Principle of allowing an individual the dignity afforded by risk-taking, with subsequent enhancement of personal growth and quality of life.[11]

Determinants: Constructs or factors that influence the outcome of implementation, whether it be adoption, implementation or sustainability[12]. There are two main types of determinants: barriers that impede implementation and facilitators that enable implementation[13].

Implementation strategies: The methods or techniques used to within an implementation project that support the adoption of innovations into clinical practice.[14]

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