

WHO Collaborating Centre for KT and HTA in Health Equity



Established in 1998, we were designated as the WHO Collaborating Centre for Health Technology Assessment. In 2020, the Bruyère Research Institute and the Ottawa Centre for Health Equity were redesignated as the WHO Collaborating Centre for Knowledge Translation and Health Technology Assessment in Health Equity.

Our team includes 26 partners who are interested in research related to health equity, health technology assessment, and knowledge translation.



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The mandate of our WHO Collaborating Centre includes:

- Promoting the importance of technology assessment in support of health policy development;
- The collection and distribution of information on the safety, efficacy, effectiveness, cost, and other social and ethical implications of medical and health technology;
- Promoting collaboration among other member countries in the various fields of technology assessment.

Workplan Highlights

Our workplan includes over 15 ongoing projects with international importance. Here are just a few highlights. To see more, visit our website: <https://theoche.ca/who>

1. Improving social justice in observational studies: development of a global and Indigenous reporting guideline

This project aims to develop a STROBE-Equity reporting guideline extension using a multi-phase approach, including:

1. assessing the reporting of health equity in published observational studies,
2. seeking wide international feedback on items to improve reporting of health equity,
3. establishing consensus amongst knowledge users and researchers,
4. evaluating in partnership with Indigenous contributors the relevance to Indigenous peoples who have globally experienced the oppressive legacy of colonization, and
5. widely disseminating and seeking endorsement from relevant knowledge users.

Read more: <https://equityhealthj.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s12939-023-01854-1>

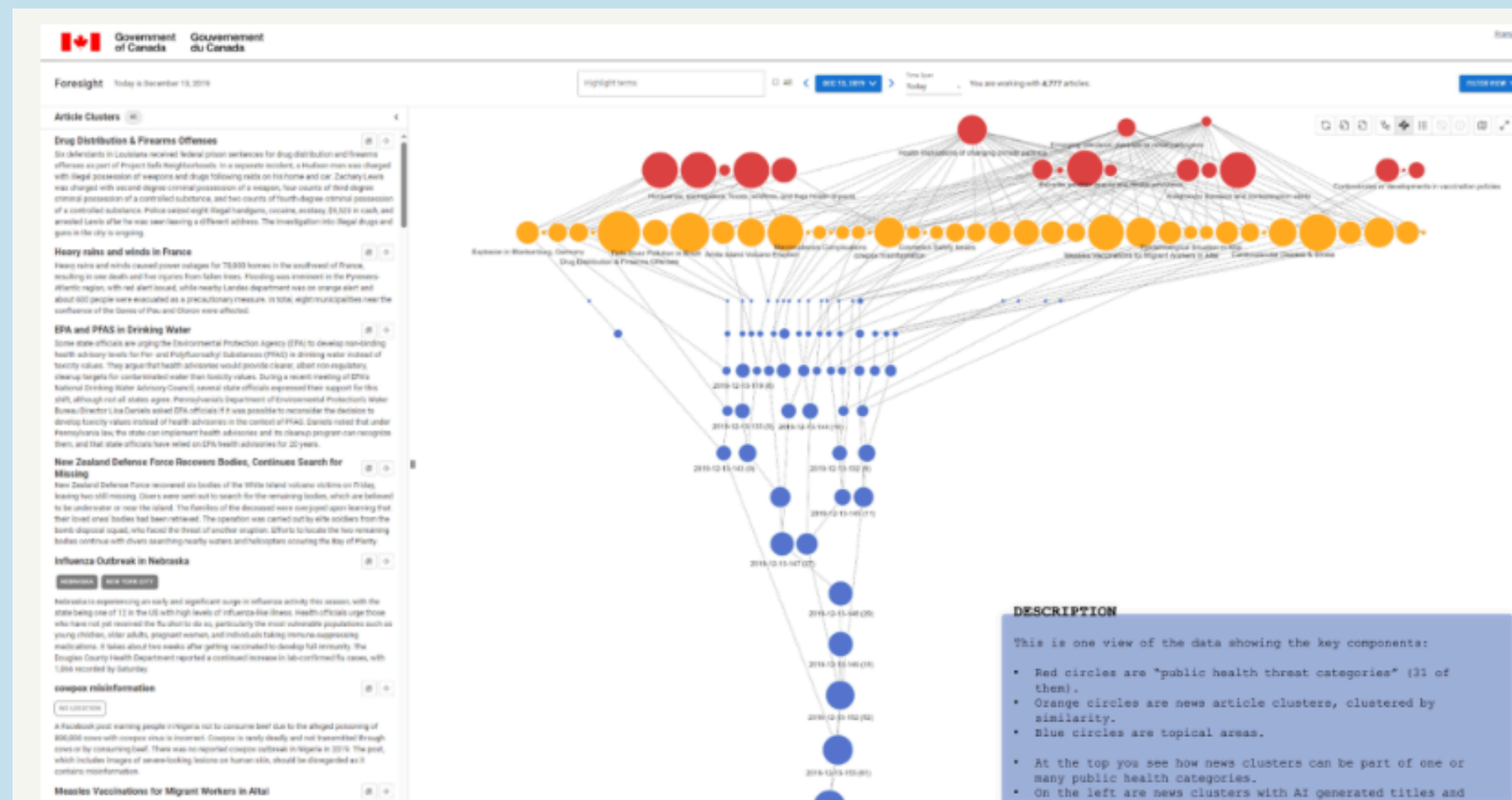
2. MuSE: Developing guidance for engagement in health and healthcare guidelines and evidence synthesis

We have funding to develop guidance for multi-interest-holder engagement in health and healthcare guidelines as well as evidence synthesis. You can learn more about these projects on our website: <https://methods.cochrane.org/equity/projects/multi-stakeholder-engagement-muse>



3. Developing a signal detection platform: Situational Awareness, Public Health Intelligence and Innovation in Research Project (SAPHIIR)

The COVID-19 pandemic illustrated the importance of public health event-based surveillance, early warning for unusual/unexpected public health signals or events and dissemination of global alerts for all hazard events that pose a risk to global health. We are developing framework for addressing an array of emerging threats, including the impacts of climate change, disparities in healthcare access, the rise of resistant diseases, financial challenges in healthcare, and the deterioration of mental health.



4. Scoping review of WHO guideline uptake and use in WHO Member States

For this project, we conducted a scoping review of published literature (2007-2020). The scoping review included 48 studies and organized the findings into four themes:

- 1) Lack of national legislation, regulations, and policy coherence;
- 2) inadequate experience, expertise, and training of healthcare providers for guideline uptake and use;
- 3) funding limitations for guideline uptake and use; and
- 4) inadequate healthcare infrastructure for guideline compliance

The findings indicate that guideline uptake in any WHO Member State is influenced by multiple factors and their interplay, such as awareness of guidelines, funding, infrastructure, legislation, and regulations.

Saluja, K., Reddy, K.S., Wang, Q. et al. Improving WHO's understanding of WHO guideline uptake and use in Member States: a scoping review. Health Res Policy Sys 20, 98 (2022). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12961-022-00899-y>

Co-Directors



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Find out more!

See our complete work plan on our website: <https://theoche.ca/who>

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