ABSTRACT

**Background:** The gap between the community of researchers in rehabilitation and those who work in rehabilitation may contribute to poor use of research findings in practice. Collaborative approaches may reduce this gap and improve the knowledge translation (KT) process. Local communities of practice (CoP) are hence proposed as a novel collaborative approach. **Aims & objectives:** The aim of this project is to assess the pertinence of using local CoPs to facilitate KT in rehabilitation. The objectives are to assess the feasibility of conducting local CoPs in rehabilitation and to explore the effect of local CoPs on KT in research and clinical practices. **Methods:** A single-case study is proposed combining quantitative and qualitative data analyses. Three CoPs will be put into place at the Jewish Rehabilitation Hospital (JRH) and run for one hour once a month for 9 months. Participants will include clinicians, managers and researchers, as well as a group facilitator. Data regarding the functioning of the CoPs will be recorded throughout the 9 month period. At the end of this period, a questionnaire will be administered to all participants and focus groups will be conducted. **Expected contribution:** Increasing the ongoing interaction between researchers and clinicians may contribute to making research more clinically applicable and facilitate research uptake by clinicians. Findings from the study will provide new information regarding the feasibility of implementing local CoPs in a rehabilitation setting and a better understanding of the processes that take place when increased interaction between researchers and clinicians is facilitated.