Abstract

Important gaps between clinical practice and research were documented at the Institut de Réadaptation Gingras-Lindsay de Montreal (IRGLM) following an internal review. Recommended strategies to address these gaps included the use of change agents called SAGE (Specialists in the Application and Generalization of Expertise) in each of the five clinical programs. Few studies have examined how change actually happens when implementing new knowledge within large rehabilitation hospitals. A theory-based collaborative research approach will be used to better understand the processes involved in transferring knowledge into action when using change agents as facilitators within these clinical programs. Specifically, this research will explore the experiences and the perceived roles of change agents (SAGEs) to facilitate the uptake of best practice among rehabilitation clinicians at the IRGLM. This study will also aim to determine the factors that influenced uptake of best practice in each clinical program from the SAGEs’ perspective and evaluate the impact of implementing SAGEs as change agents from the point of view of the clinicians themselves. Findings from this innovative collaborative project should help inform IRGLM managers and decision makers of the perceived roles, experiences and impact of SAGEs as a strategy to promote the uptake of best practice.