

## Background

Implementation science and practice have been criticized for failing to explicitly address the unique experiences of those implementing or receiving an implementation intervention.<sup>1</sup> Intersectionality (Figure 1) emphasizes that human experience is shaped by a combination of social categories (e.g., ethnicity, gender identity, education) occurring within and interacting with power structures (e.g. political system), which reflect macro systems of privilege and oppression.<sup>2-6</sup>

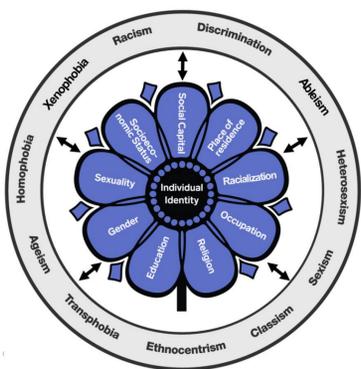


Figure 1. Visual depiction of intersectionality<sup>6-9</sup>

## Project Goal

The objective of this component of a multi-part study was to develop and receive preliminary feedback on usability for tools for applying intersectionality-enhanced implementation models/theories/frameworks associated with three stages of the Knowledge-to-Action (KTA) Framework (Figure 2).<sup>10-14</sup> The target audience of the project is implementation intervention developers (practitioners and researchers).

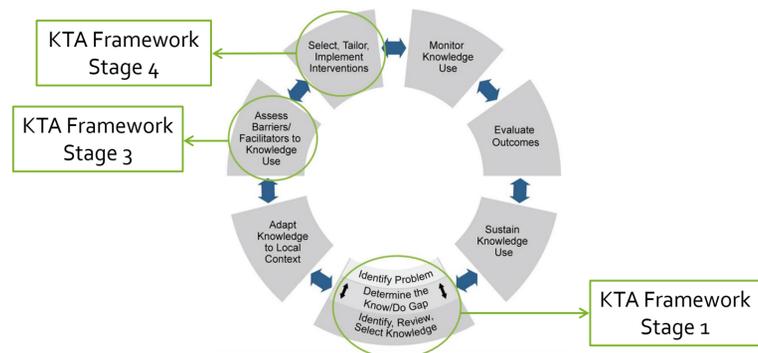


Figure 2. Three stages identified within the KTA Framework's Action Cycle for intersectionality enhancements<sup>10-14</sup>

## Methods



### Committee Tool Drafting

A committee of intersectionality scholars, adult education experts, implementation researchers and practitioners developed four tools using iterative discussion and majority voting processes:

- Introductory Intersectionality Guide
- *KTA Framework Stage 1*: Reflection Workbook
- *KTA Framework Stage 3*: Guide for Common Approaches to Assessing Barriers & Facilitators to Knowledge Use
- *KTA Framework Stage 4*: Selecting and Tailoring Knowledge Translation (KT) Interventions Workbook



### Participant Recruitment

Purposive sampling approach via individual emails, recruitment flyers, and electronic newsletters (e.g., KT Canada Newsletter) to target implementation intervention developers. To reflect the diversity of this target user group, we aimed to recruit a diverse population for tool usability testing.



### Pre-Interview Information & Consent

Participants reviewed the tool, question topics, and an information package in advance of the interview



### Usability Testing Interviews

- Semi-structured interviews conducted in English by two research associates<sup>15</sup>
- Each participant reviewed one of the four tools<sup>16</sup>
- Feedback provided using the think-aloud approach<sup>17,18</sup>
- Research associates coded interview notes by tool section and thematic category (e.g., content, appearance, format & navigation)<sup>15</sup>
- Participants completed the System Usability Scale (SUS)<sup>19</sup>

## Results

### Average System Usability Scale (SUS) Summary Scores

Tool Component	Intersectionality Guide	Reflection Workbook	Guide for Common Approaches to Assessing Barriers & Facilitators to Knowledge Use	Selecting and Tailoring KT Interventions Workbook
Number of usability testing participants	9	7	8	7
Average SUS summary score	62	65	78	60

### Participants

31 implementation intervention developers aged 25 – 69 years with an average of 9 years of KT experience working across 3 different countries.



19% identified having a below average household income



37% identified as a person of colour



85% identified as female



15% identified as LGBTQ+



11% identified having an impairment, health condition, or learning difference



48% identified having a religious or spiritual affiliation

### Themes

Most participants reported that they intended to use the tools. They understood the importance of incorporating intersectionality into their KT interventions. Participants noted the following themes:

#### Strengths of Tools:

- Reflection prompts
- Resources linked within text
- Case examples
- Summary of Intersectionality
- Layout easy to understand

#### Suggestions for Tool Improvement:

- Shorter length
- More visualizations to break up the content
- More checklists with action items relevant for their KT projects
- More information on why an intersectional approach should be used
- More context for activities and reflection questions

## Conclusion

Implementation intervention developers interviewed for usability testing self-identified with a range of social categories. They provided unique perspectives on the four tools. Participants highlighted that the tools were needed in taking an intersectional approach in implementation practice. Most said they would use the tools to support taking an intersectional approach when designing implementation interventions to attempt to promote health equity and consideration of unique human experiences. They suggested the tools could be improved by decreasing the tool's length and including more visualizations.

## Next Steps

The final versions of the tools are currently being pilot tested in implementation projects in the next phase of this study. All tools are freely available at [www.knowledgetranslation.net/portfolios/intersectionality-and-kt/](http://www.knowledgetranslation.net/portfolios/intersectionality-and-kt/)

## Acknowledgements

We recognize that our work, and the work of our collaborators, take place on traditional, ancestral and unceded territories First Nation, Métis and Inuit people across Canada. We acknowledge the harms of the past. We are grateful for the generous opportunities to conduct work and share knowledge on these lands. For more, visit: [www.knowledgetranslation.net/portfolios/intersectionality-and-kt/](http://www.knowledgetranslation.net/portfolios/intersectionality-and-kt/)

We would like to acknowledge implementation science researchers and practitioners who participated in our usability testing interviews.

We would like to acknowledge our funder, the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR). We would like to acknowledge the limitations of this project, as we did not include Indigenous perspectives in the grant proposal (full statement found in link below).

We thank all those involved in the ongoing work of the "Intersectionality and Knowledge Translation Interventions" project. To learn more, visit: [www.knowledgetranslation.net/portfolios/intersectionality-and-kt/](http://www.knowledgetranslation.net/portfolios/intersectionality-and-kt/)

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## More information

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