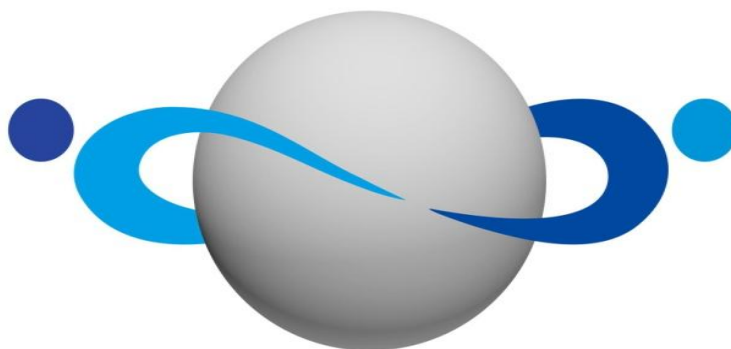




**Tehran University of Medical Sciences**



**Knowledge Utilization Research Center**

**(KURC)**

**A short introduction to:**

**Knowledge Utilization Research Center (KURC),**

**Tehran University of Medical Sciences, Tehran,  
Iran.**

**Center of Excellence in Evidence Based Decision  
Making**

**2018**



## *Knowledge is Power*



Ferdowsi, the son of a wealthy land owner, was born in 940 in a small village in Khorasan in (North East of Iran). His great epic, the Shāhnāmeḥ, to which he devoted more than 35 years, was originally composed for presentation to the Samanid princes of Khorasan, who were the chief instigators of the revival of Iranian cultural traditions.

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## History

The 'Knowledge Utilization Research Center' began its work in 2006 under the title of the 'KTE Study Group' in the 'Center of Academic and Health Policy' of Tehran University of Medical Sciences. In 2008 it was approved as a research center by the Ministry of Health and Medical Education (MOHME).

## Mission

The 'Knowledge Utilization Research Center' aims to produce knowledge, localize it, and promote policies, methods and activities that lead to the better utilization of health knowledge in the country. The goal of this center is to create change in health decision makers' (people, health service providers, managers and policy makers) behavior, i.e. to make decisions on the basis of scientific and research evidence on one hand, and to make infrastructure and strengthen researchers' efforts in transferring research results on the other hand and improve their communicating environment.

## Center's Strategies

### People

1. Designing and holding educational workshops for news producers' methods of investigation and production of quality news for public dissemination
2. Developing critical appraisal tools for content of health news disseminated in public media
3. Developing a guide for selection and production of appropriate news for journalists

### Policy makers and managers

1. Development of tools such as public health guidance and policy brief for national programs of priority
2. Development of tools for utilization of evidence by managers and policy makers
3. Holding informed-decision making workshops for management and policy makers
4. Launching web-based educational programs for managers and policy makers in the field of knowledge translation
5. Development of a tool for assessing activities and interventions performed

### Health service providers

1. Examination of ways of promoting physicians continuing medical education
2. Identification and design of a notification system for health service providers during health crises
3. Identification of interventions necessary for changing health service providers' behavior to evidence based practice

### Researchers

1. Launching the PhD by Research course in the field of Knowledge Translation
2. Development of a standard tool for assessing knowledge translation activities at personal and organizational level

3. Design and implementation of an interventional package for strengthening knowledge translation at national academic level
4. Launching web-based educational programs for researchers in the field of knowledge translation
5. Development and strengthening of a collaboration network between researchers and research users in the eastern Mediterranean region
6. Establishing executives offices for knowledge translation at university level nationwide

## KURC Achievements

The main activities and achievements of (KURC) can be divided into two main groups: education and research.

### Education

#### ➤ Workshops

1. Knowledge translation and exchange for
  - The country's research managers and deputies
  - Various medical universities across the country
  - international level [sponsored by the Regional Office of the Eastern Mediterranean (EMRO)]
2. Evidence informed policy making
3. Adaptation of clinical guidelines
4. Systematic review and meta analysis
5. Economic Evaluation





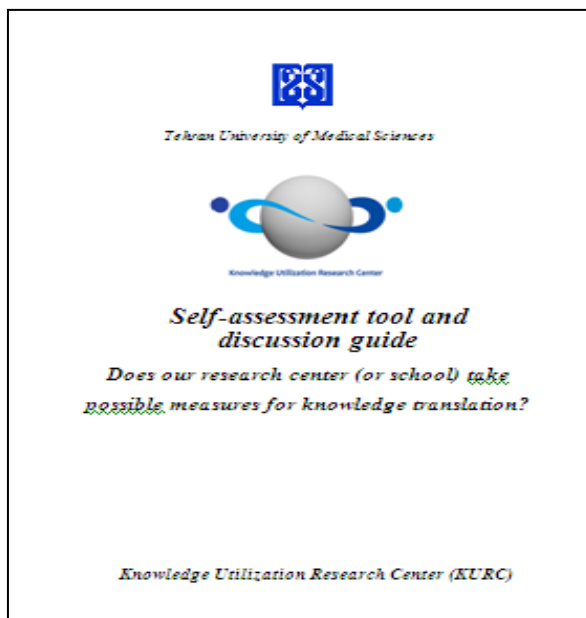
## Research

### ➤ Self Assessment tool

The “self-assessment tool for knowledge translation” has been designed to assess the knowledge translation status in research organizations (Research centers, faculties and universities).

This tool has been designed in four sections:

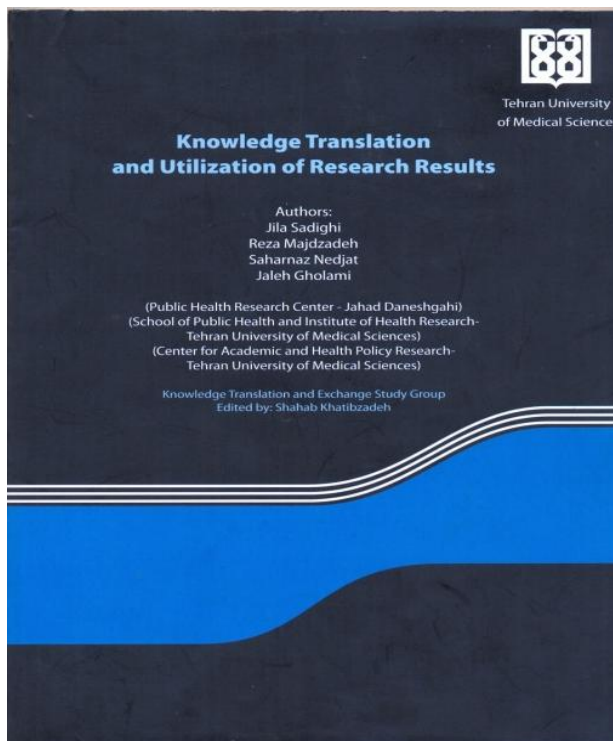
1. *The question of research*: Do we identify decision makers’ research needs and convert them into research questions?
2. *Knowledge production*: Do we produce evidence that is useful for decision making?
3. *Knowledge transfer*: Do we have appropriate means for disseminating the organizations’ research results to their target audiences?
4. *Promoting the use of evidence*: Do we help decision makers *better* utilize research results?



➤ **Publications**

**Books**

In 2008 the KURC published a Persian book titled "Knowledge Translation and Utilization of Research Results" which is a review on knowledge translation models and theories and also an introduction to its methods.



➤ **Papers**

Papers have categorized according to Push side, Pull side(Policy makers, Health care providers, People and patients, Industry), Exchange( media) and Health research impact.

<b>KTE activities</b>	<b>papers</b>	<b>Journal</b>
<b>KTE Push side</b>		
	Research's Practice and Barriers of Knowledge Translation in Iran	Iran J Public Health. 2014 Jul;43(7):968-80
	Knowledge Translation for Research Utilization: Design of a Knowledge Translation Model at Tehran University of Medical Sciences	J Contin Educ Health Prof. 2008, 28(4):270–277.
	How Much Importance Do We Give to Target Audiences in Article Writing?	Int J Prev Med.2010, 1(1): 11-18
	How Much Importance Do We Give to Target Audiences in Article Writing?	Int J Prev Med 2010, 1(1): 11-18
	Methodologies and messages in Iranian articles on maternal care, diabetes mellitus, and tuberculosis, published in 2001 - 2006.	Int J Prev Med. 2012 Jan;3(1):42-6
	How should we assess knowledge translation in research organizations; designing a knowledge translation self-assessment tool for research institutes (SATORI).	Health Res Policy Syst. 2011 Feb 22;9:10
	Knowledge translation in Iranian universities: need for serious interventions	Health Res Policy Syst 2013

KTE activities	papers	Journal
	Collaboration in research and the influential factors in Golestan University of Medical Sciences research projects (2005-2007): an academic sample from Iran	Med J Islam Repub Iran , Vol. 27, No. 3, Aug 2013,
	Research collaboration in Tehran University of Medical Sciences: two decades after integration	Health Res Policy Syst (biomed central) 2009, 7:8
	Intervention for Promoting Research Knowledge: introduction	Irn J Med Hypotheses Ideas, 2009, 3:18.
	Interventions for Promoting Research Knowledge Translation: Why and how should we promote utilization of research-based knowledge through medical journals	Irn J Med Hypotheses Ideas, 2009, 3:19
	Interventions for Promoting Research Knowledge Translation: Selection and Grading of Research Projects for Decision Makers	Irn J Med Hypotheses Ideas, 2009, 3:20
	Interventions for Promoting Research Knowledge Translation: Intellectual Property Rights of Stakeholders for Promotion of Knowledge Translation	Int J Prev Med, 2009, 3:21
	Interventions for Promoting Research Knowledge Translation: Modifying faculty members' promotion criteria"	Irn J Med Hypotheses Ideas, 2009, 3:22.
	Knowledge transfer in Tehran University of Medical Sciences: an academic example of a developing country	Implement Sci (biomed central) 2008, 3:39
	Association between co-authorship network and scientific productivity and impact indicators in academic medical research centers: A case study in Iran	Health Res Policy Syst , 2008, 6:9
	Iran's Health Innovation and Science Development Plan by 2025	Iranian J Publ Health 2009, 38(1), 13-16

<b>KTE activities</b>	<b>papers</b>	<b>Journal</b>
<b>KTE pull side</b>		
<b>Policy makers</b>	Health Technology Assessment in a developing country: Barriers and Solutions	Med J Islam Repub Iran. 2016 Jan 26;30:321
	Stakeholders Involvement in Health Technology Assessment at National Level: a Case Study from Iran	Int J Technol Assess Health Care. 2016 Jan;32(3):181-9.
	How can we establish more successful knowledge networks in developing countries?	Health Res Policy Syst. 2014 Oct 29;12:63.
	Policy Brief on Promoting Physical Activity among Adolescents	Int J Prev Med. Vol 3, No 9, September, 2012
	A Qualitative Assessment of the Evidence Utilization for Health Policy-Making on the Basis of SUPPORT Tools in a Developing Country	Int J Health Policy Manag.
	Validity and reliability of the Evidence Utilisation in Policymaking Measurement Tool (EUPMT)	Health Res Policy Syst. 2017 Aug 4;15(1):66
	Development of evidence-based health policy documents in developing countries: a case of Iran	Glob J Health Sci ; Vol. 6, No. 3; 2014- ISSN 1916-9736
	Linking research to action' in Iran: Two decades after integration of the Health Ministry and the medical universities.	Public Health J 2010 Jul, 124(7):404-411
	Promoting development and use of systematic reviews in a developing country	J Eval Clin Pract 15 (2009) 1029–1034
	Strengthening evidence-based decision-making: is it possible without improving health system stewardship?	Health Policy Plan 2012;27:499–504

KTE activities	papers	Journal
	Evidence-based approach to HIV/ AIDS policy and research prioritization in the Islamic Republic of Iran.	East Mediterr Health J. 2010 Mar;16(3):259-65.
	A systematic review of qualitative evidence on barriers and facilitators to the implementation of task-shifting in midwifery services	Epub 2013 Jun 12
	Implementing family physician programme in rural Iran: exploring the role of an existing primary health care network	Fam Pract. 2013 Oct;30(5):551-9. doi: 10.1093
	Family Physician Implementation and Preventive Medicine; Opportunities and Challenges	Int J Prev Med. Vol. 3, No. 10, October, 2012
	Clarifying the Role of Schools in Tendency or Lack of Tendency Toward Smoking among Teenage Boys (11-14) in Mashhad, Iran	Iran Red Cres Med J. 2014 January
<b>Health care providers</b>	Only One Third of Tehran's Physicians are Familiar with 'Evidence-Based Clinical Guidelines'	Int J Prev Med. 2013 March; 4(3)
	The perspectives of Iranian physicians and patients towards patient decision aids: a qualitative study	BMC Res Notes 2013, 6:379
	Disease surveillance and private sector in the metropolitans: a troublesome collaboration	Int J Prev Med. 2013 Sep;4(9):1036-44.
	Perceived barriers to reporting adverse drug events in hospitals: a qualitative study using theoretical domains framework approach	Implement Sci. 2015 Aug 7;10:110.
	Barriers of clinical practice guidelines development and implementation in developing countries: a case study in Iran	Int J Prev Med. 2013 Mar;4(3):340-8.
	Cesarean section rate in Iran, multidimensional approaches for behavioral change of providers: a qualitative study	BMC Health Serv Res 2011, 11:159.

KTE activities	papers	Journal
	Barriers of Clinical Practice Guidelines Development and Implementation in Developing Countries: A Case Study in Iran	Int J Prev Med. Vol 4, No 3, March, 2013
	Health Emergency Mass Notification: Lessons Learnt from the H1N1 Pandemic in Tehran	Int J Prev Med. Vol.3, No.12: December 2012
	Lessons learned from H1N1 epidemic: the role of mass media informing physicians	Int J Prev Med . 2011 Jan; 2(1).
	Evidence-Based Health Care, Past Deeds at a Glance, Challenges and the Future Prospects in Iran	Iranian J Publ Health, Vol. 41, No.12, Dec 2012
	Investigating the effect of clinical governess approach on patients' length of stay in emergency department: an action research study	Acta Med Iran. 2014;52(2):137-45.
	Development of a Farsi translation of the AGREE instrument, and the effects of group discussion on improving the reliability of the scoresjep_1649	J Eval Clin Pract ISSN 1365-2753
	Didactic Lecture Versus Interactive Workshop for Continuing Pharmacy Education on Reproductive Health: A Randomized Controlled Trial	Eval Health Prof. 2013 Dec 10
	Reasons for Physicians' Tendency to Irrational Prescription of Corticosteroids	Iran Red Crescent Med J
	Efficacy of Continuing Education in Improving Pharmacists' "Evaluation & the health professions."alth: A Randomized Controlled Trial.coresjep_1649oles	J Contin Educ Health Prof , 32(3):163-173, 2012
	Which Information Resources are used by General Practitioners for Updating Knowledge Regarding Diabetes?	Arch Iran Med , Vol. 15, No. 4, April 2012 223

KTE activities	papers	Journal
	Guidelines for Guidelines: Are They Up to the Task? A Comparative Assessment of Clinical Practice Guideline Development Handbooks	Plos. November. 2012 , Vol. 7
	A social network analysis on clinical education of diabetic foot	J Diabetes Metab Disord 2013
	Nutritional screening for improving professional practice for patient outcomes in hospital and primary care settings (Review)	Cochrane Database Syst Rev. 2013 Jun, pub2
	Evaluating clinical practice guidelines developed for the management of thyroid nodules and thyroid cancers and assessing the reliability and validity of the AGREE instrument	J Eval Clin Pract. 2011 Aug; 17(4):729-736.
	Development of a Farsi translation of the AGREE instrument, and the effects of group discussion on improving the reliability of the scores	J Eval Clin Pract. 2011 Mar 16.
	Continuing education meetings and workshops: effects on professional practice and health care outcomes (Review)	Cochrane Database Syst Rev. 2009, Issue 2
	Differences in the contents of two randomized surveys of GPs' prescribing intentions affected response rates	J Clin Epidemiol 61 (2008) 718-721
	Falling on stony ground? A qualitative study of implementation of clinical guidelines' prescribing recommendations in primary care	Health Policy 85 (2008) 148-161
	Teaching evidence-based practice: the teachers consider the content	J Eval Clin Pract. ISSN. 2007, 13 :569-575
People and patients	People's trust in health news disseminated by mass media in Tehran	Med J Islam Repub Iran, 2014 Oct 18;28:114. eCollection 2014



<b>KTE activities</b>	<b>papers</b>	<b>Journal</b>
	Do We Transfer Health Research Results to People?	Int J Prev Med , Vol. 2, No. 2, April 2011
	Effectiveness of a theory-based intervention to increase colorectal cancer screening among Iranian health club members: a randomized trial	J Behav Med- 13 September 2013 DOI 10.1007/s10865-013-9533-6
	Health-promoting behaviors and social support in Iranian women of reproductive age: a sequential explanatory mixed methods study	Int J Public Health. 2014 Jun
	Self-Monitoring of Blood Pressure for Improving Adherence to Antihypertensive Medicines and Blood Pressure Control: A Randomized Controlled Trial	Am J Hypertens. 2014 Apr 26
	Pictorial Health Warning Labels on Cigarette Packages: An Investigation on Opinions of Male Smokers	Iran Red Crescent Med J. 2014
	Determining appropriate strategies for improving women's health promoting behaviours: using the nominal group technique	East Mediterr Health J. 2013 May
	Assessing and Comparing the Short-Term Effects of TPB Only and TPB Plus Implementation Intentions Interventions on Snacking Behavior in Iranian Adolescent Girls: A Cluster Randomized Trial	Am J Health Promot. January/February 2013, Vol. 27, No. 3
	Parental Control and Junk-Food Consumption: A Mediating and Moderating Effect Analysis	J Appl Soc Psychol. 2012
	Psychometric Properties of the Persian Version of the Youth Risk Behavior Survey Questionnaire	Iran Red Crescent Med J 2012
<b>Industry</b>	Commercialization of biopharmaceutical knowledge in Iran; challenges and solutions	DARU Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences 2014

KTE activities	papers	Journal
	Identifying and prioritizing industry-level competitiveness factors: evidence from pharmaceutical market	DARU Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences 2014
<b>Exchange (media)</b>		
	Improving the Quality of Health News	Int J Prev Med. Vol 3, No 7, July 2012
	Quality of health news disseminated in the print media in developing countries: a case study in Iran	BMC Public Health 2012, 12:627
<b>Health research impact</b>		
	Impact assessment of Iran's health technology assessment programme.	Health Res Policy Syst. 2018 Feb 22;16(1):15
	An assessment of health research impact in Iran	Health Res Policy Syst. 2016 Jul 26;14(1):56
	Impact of Health Research Systems on Under-5 Mortality Rate: A Trend Analysis	Int J Health Policy Manag 2017, 6(x), 1–8
	Systematic review of methods for evaluating healthcare research economic impact	Health Res Policy Syst 2010, 8:6
	The gastro-esophageal malignancies in northern Iran (GEMINI) is expected to be the pioneer in the implementation and application of the methodology used in evaluating research impact	2013 May;16(5):317-8.
	Bibliographic review of research publications on access to and use of medicines in low-income and middle-income countries in the Eastern Mediterranean Region: identifying the research gaps	BMJ Open 2013;

## Health Technology Assessments

- ✓ The Cost-Utility Analysis of PET-Scan in Diagnosis and Treatment of Non-Small Cell Lung Carcinoma in Iran
- ✓ Cost-Effectiveness of Mammography Screening for Breast Cancer in a Low Socioeconomic Group of Iranian Women
- ✓ Cost Effectiveness of Breast Cancer Screening Using Mammography; a Systematic Review
- ✓ Low level laser therapy for nonspecific low-back pain (Review).
- ✓ Assessment of safety, effectiveness, cost- effectiveness of Transient Elastography (FibroScan) versus liver biopsy for liver fibrosis diagnosis (ongoing research)
- ✓ Horizon Scanning of Intraarticular transplantation of autologous bone marrow derived stromal cells in patients with knee, hip and ankle osteoarthritis(ongoing research)
- ✓ Assessment of effectiveness, cost effectiveness, and safety of Colonoscopy in comparison with sigmoidoscopy in screening of colorectal cancer to high-risk population in Iran(ongoing research)

## Ongoing research

1. Developing indexes for monitoring and evaluation of knowledge translation activities in Tehran University of Medical Sciences and designing a composite index at individual and organizational levels
2. Accuracy of self citation and co-citation index for measuring the research line of researchers
3. Methodological assessment of knowledge transfer interventions in health setting: a scoping review

4. Development and validation of knowledge utilization questionnaire on healthy life style among Iranian old people
5. Validity assessment of “health research impact” questionnaire in health service and public health research and evaluation of barriers and facilitators of its implementation
6. Designing a Knowledge Utilization Model in HEALTH among older people in an Iranian context “A Grounded Theory study”
7. Research gap in Universal Health Coverage in Iran, Turkey, Egypt and Pakistan
8. Assessment of Research Systems in ‘Universal Health Coverage’ – Related Organizations.
9. The comparison of domestic, regional and international journals from the knowledge translation perspectives.
10. How to improve disease notification behaviour in private sector physicians: a case of Theory of Planned Behaviour and Structural Equation Model

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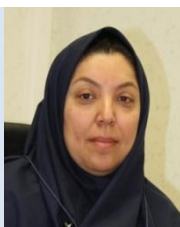
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