
OPTIMA National End-of-Trial KT Event

Evaluation Report
Executive Summary

2022

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

The National OPTIMA End-of-Trial KT Event took place from November 21st-23rd, 2022. The event was located on traditional Treaty 7 territory colonially known as Banff, Alberta. The event included OPTIMA investigators, members of the OPTIMA research team, CRISM researchers, clinicians, people with lived/living expertise of substance use (PWLLE), Indigenous community members, and students from across Canada.

An evaluation was performed to gather input from attendees to identify opportunities to enhance future knowledge translation (KT) initiatives and better meet scientific, clinical and community KT needs. Session polls, qualitative poster board questions, and a post event survey were performed to evaluate the event objectives of:

- Increasing attendee knowledge about OPTIMA’s findings and flexible models of care (MoC) for opioid use disorder (OUD)
- Building knowledge mobilization capacity

DATA SUMMARY

NUMBER OF ATTENDEES



LOCATION OF ATTENDEES



ROLE OF ATTENDEES

Scientific Settings



Community Settings



Clinical Settings



WHAT ATTENDEES HAD TO SAY:

“ The main takeaway for me was that we need to do better in our models of care so that they meet patients’ needs. ”

“ More representation, engagement, and advocacy for PWLLE and Indigenous communities would be nice to see in all phases of research. ”

NUMBER OF SESSIONS



HIGHEST RATED SESSION:
 ★★★★★ 5.0
**Meaningful Engagement of
 People with Lived and Living
 Experience in Research**

TYPES OF SESSIONS

- » 6 OPTIMA results presentations
- » 1 Panel discussion on flexible models of care for OUD
- » 4 Meaningful stakeholder engagement in research sessions
- » 2 CRISM upcoming projects presentations
- » 1 KT Capacity building workshop
- » 1 3-Minute Thesis Competition

MEANINGFUL ENGAGEMENT OF PWLLE AND INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES.

Participants highlighted the importance of engaging PWLLE and Indigenous communities in all phases of the research process. Respondents also indicated they learned what engagement looks like in practice and how they can better collaborate with PWLLE and Indigenous communities. There was a desire for more training on how to meaningfully engage stakeholders.

DISMANTLE BARRIERS TO PROVIDING FLEXIBLE OUD CARE

Participants stressed that flexible care must be person-centered care. Several barriers result in inequitable access to OAT programs across Canada. KT priorities brought up were to improve physician training around OAT; develop policies and procedures endorsed by the Regulatory colleges to increase OAT prescribing; ease requirements around carries and urinary drug screens; and scale flexible approaches such as deliveries and PRN doses.

CREATE OPPORTUNITIES FOR A DIVERSITY OF VOICES.

Opportunities for collaboration with individuals from different settings, and the opportunity to hear from PWLLE first-hand, were highly valued at the event. Feedback on the event expressed the desire for more time, more opportunities for collaboration, and to centre sessions around a diversity of voices and contributions.

EVALUATION RECOMMENDATIONS

- Further training and tools on how to meaningfully engage PWLLE and Indigenous communities in research.
- Advocate for changes to regulatory policies, procedures and guidelines for OAT programs and flexible models of care and OUD.
- Develop training opportunities to build capacity among clinicians providing care to implement flexible approaches to OAT
- Prioritize brainstorming and small-group sessions at events to allow for greater collaboration and knowledge sharing.
- Involve PWLLE and Indigenous collaborators in all phases of the research process and the planning of end-of-trial KT events.