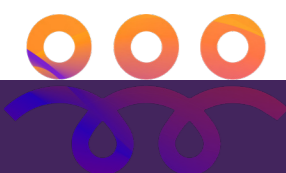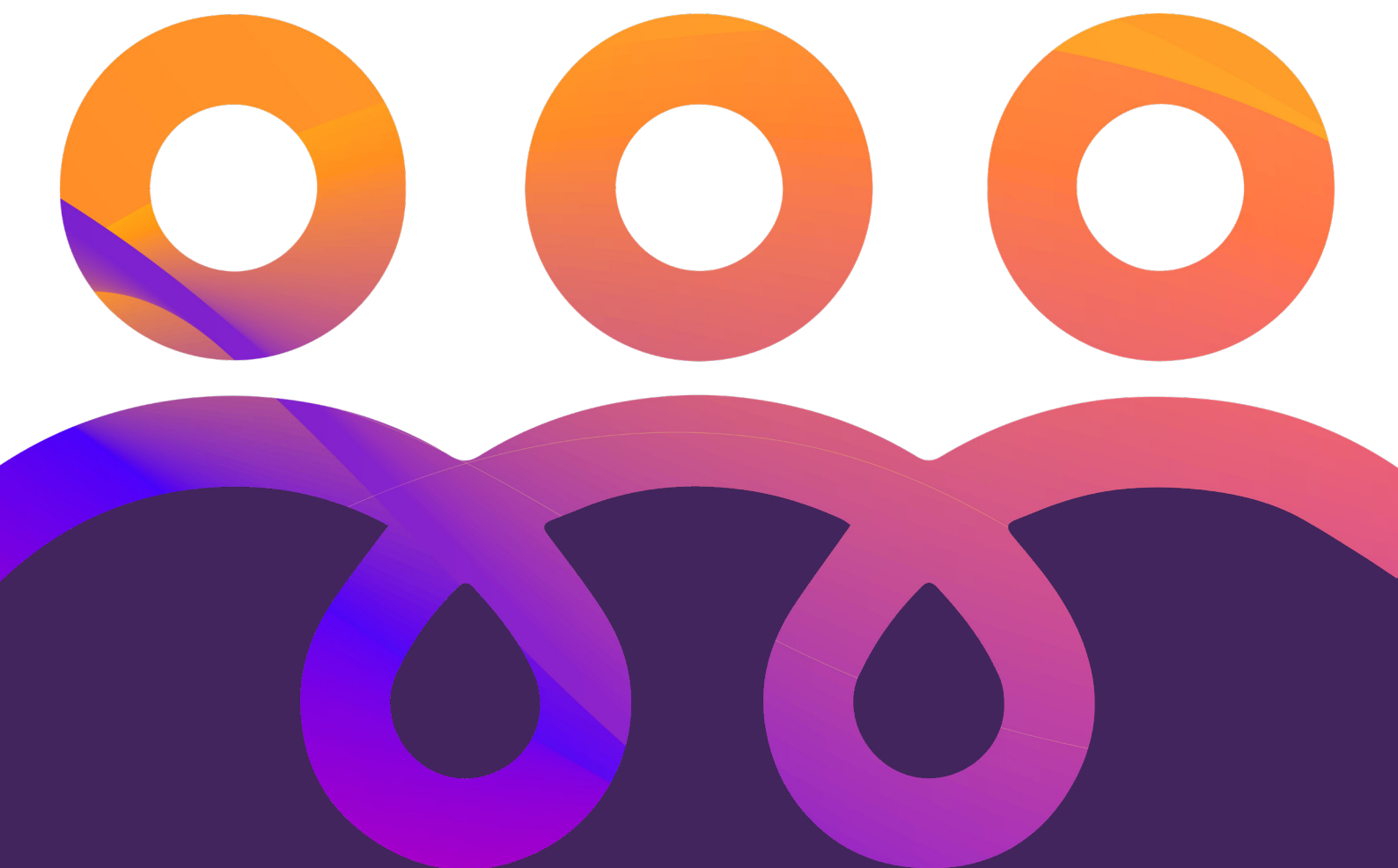# Research to Policy Translation: Common Terminology

Research to Policy Translation: Common Terminology

- **Evidence-informed decision-making (EIDM):** The process of distilling and disseminating the best available evidence from research, practice and experience and using that evidence to inform and improve public health policy and practice. Put simply, it means finding, using and sharing what works in public health.[1]

- **Knowledge translation (KT):** The synthesis, exchange, and application of knowledge by relevant stakeholders to accelerate the benefits of global and local innovation in strengthening health systems and improving people's health.[2]

- **Knowledge exchange:** Refers to the interaction between the knowledge user and the researcher, resulting in mutual learning; effective knowledge exchange involves interaction between decision-makers and researchers and results in mutual learning through the process of planning, producing, disseminating, and applying existing or new research in decision-making.[3]

- **Research-policy translation:** Policy translation is a framework, which helps researchers understand the process of travel of (policy) innovations across countries better, and as a result, manage these in a better way.[4]

- **Research translation:** Research translation is the process of moving research ideas from labs to clinics. It ensures that new medical discoveries become part of the clinical practice of GPs, other specialists and hospitals. It also means the adoption of research into policy and practice.[3]

- **Co-production:** A way of working whereby citizens and decision makers, or people who use services, family carers and service providers work together to create a decision or service which works for them all. The approach is value driven and built on the principle that those who use a service are best placed to help design it.[6]

- **Policy-relevant research:** Policy relevance research refers to how effectively research findings inform decisions made by decision-makers. In other words, policy relevance is determined by how applicable and practical research findings are to decisions that need to be made on policy priorities.[7]

- **Implementation science:** Implementation science is the study of methods to promote the adoption and integration of evidence-based practices, interventions, and policies into routine health care and public health settings to improve the impact on population health.[8]

- **Evidence based policy:** Evidence-based policies is a decision-making process which combines deductive logic with statistical analysis to inform policy decision making.[9]

- **Participatory research:** Participatory research (PR) encompasses research designs, methods, and frameworks that use systematic inquiry in direct collaboration with those affected by an issue being studied for the purpose of action or change.[10]

- **Know-do gap:** The "know-do gap" is a new term to describe an old problem: the gap between what we know and what we do in practice.[11]

- **Translational science:** The process of turning observations in the laboratory, clinic, and community into interventions that improve the health of individuals and populations – from diagnostics and therapeutics to medical procedures and observational behaviors.[12]

- **Gap analysis:** Involves understanding and identifying the difference ('gaps') between evidence and actual practice or policymaking; needs assessment at the population, organization and/or care-provider level is performed to determine the size and nature of the gap.[3]

- **Commercialisation:** Commercialisation is the process of bringing new products or services to market. The broader act of commercialization entails production, distribution, marketing, sales, customer support, and other key functions critical to achieving the commercial success of the new product or service.[13]

- **(research) Engagement:** Connecting with and involving non-academic communities throughout the research and translation processes.[14]

- **Impact:** The consequences, actions or knowledge-contributions measurably attributable, at least in part, to a particular source.[13]

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