



Strategies for Translating Caregiving Research into Policy: Lessons Learned from a Qualitative Study

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Problem

- There is a significant gap that exists between research and policy within the United States.¹
- Policymakers often voice feeling overwhelmed by the quantity of information they receive to inform policy development.¹
- Previous evidence has shown that policymakers prefer concise summaries of information.²



Objective

To help increase the translation of research findings into state-level policy, we sought to explore the effectiveness of dissemination strategies for sharing information with policymakers.

Sample

Data were utilized from 24 participants in the Caregiver Hospital Inclusion Study. Participants represented four groups:

- 1) older adults (65+ years of age),
- 2) caregivers,
- 3) healthcare providers,
- 4) policymakers

89%  , 100% Caucasian, 89% 

How can we improve translation of caregiving research into policy?

- 1 Sharing concise and meaningful information
- 2 Targeting specific policymakers
- 3 Pursuing in-person connections with policymakers



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References/Poster:



Methods

- A secondary data analysis of qualitative data from the Caregiver Hospital Inclusion Study in 2022 was conducted.
- Findings from semi-structured interviews, field notes, and community advisory board meetings were mapped onto a policy communication toolkit to understand the effectiveness of various strategies.
- To increase dependability of this mapping process, we held peer debriefing sessions to discuss the interpretation and implications of our findings.

Results

- Secondary analysis revealed both effective and ineffective dissemination strategies for sharing information with policymakers.

Effective Dissemination Methods

1. Providing policymakers with concise infographics or research results
2. Repeated in-person visits with policymakers
3. Sharing participant quotes or experiences
4. Approaching targeted policymakers on the Committee on Aging and Long-Term Care

Ineffective Dissemination Methods

1. Sharing information over email
2. Explaining information to policy aids
3. Approaching broad targets of policymakers