

# Implementing evidence in clinical practice

## Background

In healthcare research, results diffuse only slowly into clinical practice and it is vital to bridge the gap between research and practice. This study elucidates how healthcare professionals in a Danish hospital setting experience working with the implementation of research results.

## Method

Twelve qualitative interviews were carried out with healthcare professionals representing different roles in the implementation process. The analysis was guided by a directed content analysis approach.

**Nonformal**  
**Consensus**  
**Person-driven**  
**Autonomy**  
**Problem-oriented**  
**Knowledge-based**

## Aim

The aim was to illuminate which existing methods of implementing research results healthcare professionals experienced and which they utilized to incorporate research results into daily healthcare action.



## Findings

Healthcare professionals experienced the implementation of research results as *nonformalized, consensus-oriented (doctors), problem-oriented (nurses), autonomous (doctors), person-driven (nurses) and knowledge based.*

Implementation of research results showed to be unsystematically initiated, relied on few committed professionals with special research interests, but without allocated time, skills or management support to facilitate a coordinated and prioritized change of organizational routines, attitudes and competencies.

The implementation effort often ended up on paper rather than in practice, treatment and patient care.  
*"...a document, an instruction is created, and from there on everybody does it. (Doctor)"* (Kristensen et al., 2016)

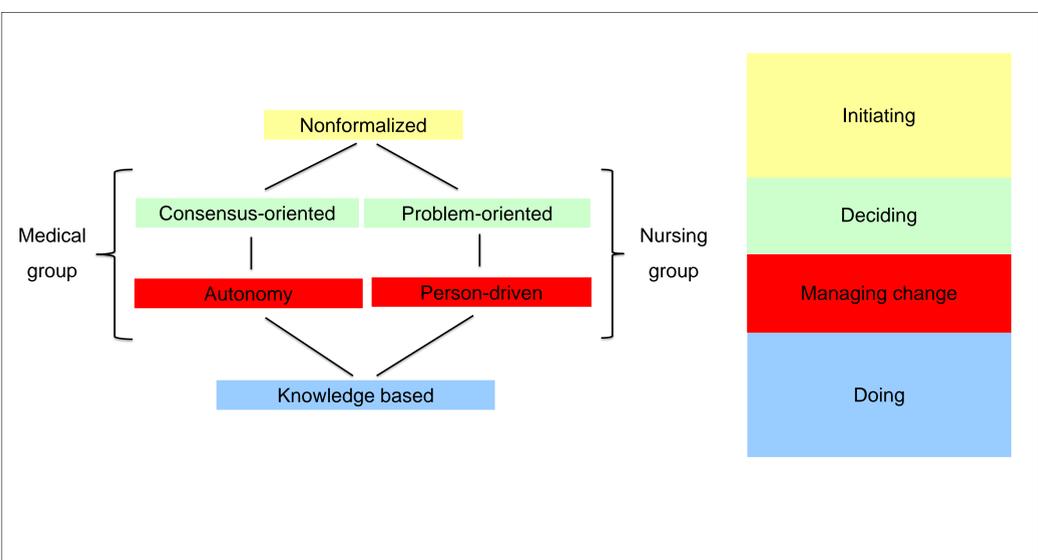


Fig.1. Activities and stages in the proces of implementation of research results in clinical practice.

## Conclusion

Closing the evidence-practice gap remains a challenge, which needs to be addressed in healthcare organizations. Implications for practice are establishing activities related to *initiating, deciding, managing change and doing* implementation of research results in action in order to generate the organizational change that can improve patient treatment and care.