

# A brief introduction to deliberative processes

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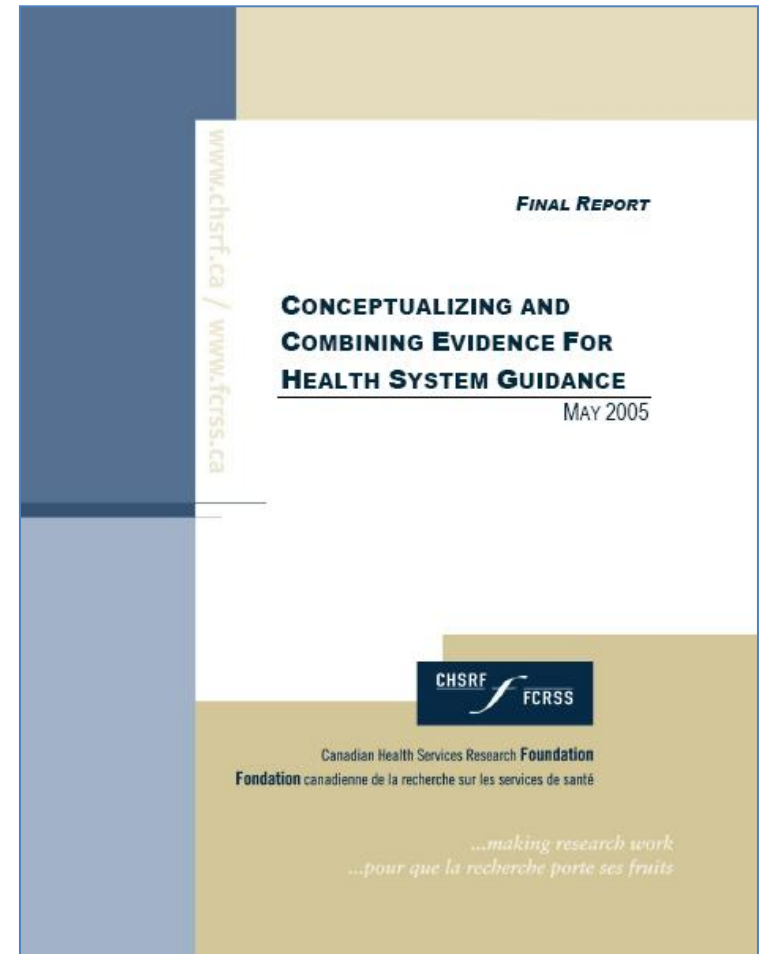
# Evidence-based vs. evidence-informed (Keeling, 2011)

- Similar underlying goals: Find and use the best available evidence when planning and implementing interventions
- Difference:
  - EBDM: Scientific evidence is the basis for decision making
  - EIDM: Diverse factors play a role in decision making, often in competition with scientific evidence

# Of evidence and deliberative processes

Lomas et al., 2005:

- “Evidence is inherently uncertain, dynamic, complex, contestable, and rarely complete” (p. 9)
- Needs to be interpreted and supplemented by **“colloquial” evidence** drawn from local experience
- **Deliberative processes** are a way of combining various forms of evidence in a transparent and explicit manner



# A definition (Gauvin, 2009)

## **Deliberative process:**

Process allowing a **group** of actors to receive and exchange **information** and **critically examine** an issue in order to **inform decision-making**

# Two major approaches (Gauvin, 2009)

## 1. Application of research-based knowledge

- Building bridges between experts and decision-makers
- Co-production and co-interpretation of research

## 2. Democratic governance

- Emphasis on the participation of civil society
- The public's perspective is taken into account
- Enhances transparency and legitimacy of decision making

# Deliberative processes vary:

## 1. What is the goal?

Make a decision

Formulate recommendations

Formulate value statements

Identify or clarify issues



# Deliberative processes vary:

## **2. When to initiate?**

Can be at various stages in decision-making process / in research project

## **3. Who participates?**

E.g.: Experts, decision-makers, community groups, citizens, other stakeholders...

## **4. What is the degree of control of participants over the decision-making process?**

From simple consultation, to control of the decision-making process

# Further resources

- Series of **fact sheets** produced by the **NCCHPP** (F.P. Gauvin)  
<http://www.ncchpp.ca/130/publications.ccnpps>
- Lavis, J. N., Boyko, J. A., Oxman, A. D., Lewin, S., & Fretheim, A. (2009). **SUPPORT Tools** for evidence-informed health Policymaking (STP) 14: Organising and using policy dialogues to support evidence-informed policymaking. *Health Research Policy and Systems*, 7(Suppl 1)(S14)
- **Hastings Center Report** Vol. 42, No. 2 March-April 2012: Essays about public deliberation

