THE INFLUENCE OF SOCIAL INTERACTIONS ON KNOWLEDGE BROKERS' ABILITY TO ABSORB RESEARCH RESULTS

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this article is to (1) paint a portrait of knowledge brokerage activities within health care organizations in Canada; (2) propose a conceptual approach for using research findings by knowledge brokers; and (3) identify and analyse the determinants of the knowledge absorption capacity of knowledge brokers. To meet this objective, a questionnaire survey was conducted with a community of practice (CoP), involving 426 knowledge brokers involved in various knowledge transfer activities organized by the Canadian Health Services Research Foundation (CHSRF). The results of multiple linear regressions notably illustrated the preponderant influence of a broker's social interactions on his/her ability to absorb research results. These findings also show that the level of education completed by the latter and the availability of organizational resources dedicated to the integration and sharing of knowledge improves a broker's ability to transform and exploit research results.

Keywords: *Knowledge brokers, social interaction, absorptive capacity, data survey, regressions.*