



# Prevention Research Center

FOR THE PROMOTION OF HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

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## TRANSLATION & DISSEMINATION

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The Prevention Research Center has long been a world leader in the advancement of prevention science related to the translation and dissemination of effective preventive interventions. The PRC recognizes that evidence-based programs can only impact population-level public health if they are effectively taken to scale, implemented with high quality, and sustained over time. The PRC continues to engage in rigorous research to improve our understanding of the mechanisms that impact the diffusion of innovations for the improvement of public health.

The term “Type II Translational Research” has recently emerged to differentiate this area of study from the basic (Type I) scientific study required to understand the etiology of a problem and subsequently develop and test the efficacy of an intervention. According to the National Institutes of Health (NIH), Type II Translational Research is aimed at enhancing the adoption, implementation, and sustainability of proven effective programs within service systems that include health care settings, schools, and community-based organizations. Type II Translational Research represents the study of processes, facilitators, and barriers to moving efficacious prevention and intervention programs and practices to widespread adoption, with the ultimate goal of achieving broad public health improvement. With the identification of a growing number of evidence-based programs (EBPs), this area of research has become a focal point of prevention science in recent years, and continues to be a central focus of the PRC’s research portfolio.

### Background

In 1999, the PRC hosted a scientific meeting of the country’s leading prevention researchers to begin to develop some of the first conceptual models for studying prevention implementation as a facilitator of moving evidence-based programs to widespread practice. At the same time, PRC researchers conducted one of the first comprehensive research reviews to identify model programs for the prevention of children’s mental health problems. In the years since, the Center’s portfolio of research related to translation, dissemination, implementation, and sustainability has grown tremendously. The PRC’s work in this area includes large, multi-state, and multi-site randomized trials of new models for disseminating EBPs, large-scale studies of the replication of EBPs under natural conditions to examine barriers and predictors of implementation quality and sustainability, the study of coalition models to promote and support going to scale, as well as developmental and comparative trials of EBP adaptations. In 2010, the PRC created a dedicated Translation & Dissemination Unit, began a monthly Type II research reading group to read about and discuss current Type II research, and held the first annual Type II research poster session to highlight the PRC’s

depth and breadth of translational research and facilitate networking and collaboration among interested faculty and graduate students.

## Goals

The PRC's goals in the area of translation and dissemination include:

1. To advance the science, policymaking, and practice of utilizing evidence-based prevention to improve public health.
2. To conduct rigorous research aimed at identifying the resources and processes necessary to effectively take evidence-based programs to scale.
3. To identify and promote practices that lead to high-quality implementation and sustainability of evidence-based programs.
4. To develop a model infrastructure for the dissemination, implementation, and sustainability of effective prevention programs and practices.
5. To foster networks of researchers, policymakers, and practitioners engaged in efforts to improve public health through evidence-based prevention.

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### FOR MORE INFORMATION

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