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A new role for the library: Measuring research productivity and impact

Cathy C. Sarli

Kristi L. Holmes

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General Examples of Research Impact

**Advancement of Knowledge** represents research outputs and/or activities that contribute to the scholarly record.

- **How was the research output used?** How were awareness of research output demonstrated?
  - License agreement granted for use of intellectual property generated by the research study
  - Clinical data generated in support of marketing a medical device
  - Conference development
  - Curriculum guidelines
  - Cloud references

**Clinical Implementation** is the adoption of research outputs and/or activities in clinical applications.

- How was translation of research outputs into clinical applications demonstrated?
  - Medical device is registered with FDA and sold in delivery of healthcare
  - Research study cited in private insurance benefit plan in support of coverage
  - Healthcare provider report that research output from a research study has affected the way they manage patients

**Community Benefit** is the enhancement of community health outcomes as a result of research outputs.

- **How was community health enhanced as a result of research output?**
  - A blood test for detection of damage to the heart muscle leads to early treatment for myocardial infarctions, a significant improvement in patient survival.
  - Improved medical devices help to reduce the risk of surgical complications after bariatric surgery.

**Economic Benefit** represents economic outcomes as a result of research outputs and/or activities.

- **How did research outputs influence or result in enactment of public law, guidelines, standards or policy?**
  - Cited references
  - License agreement granted for use of intellectual property generated by the research study
  - Clinical data generated in support of marketing a medical device
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  - Curriculum guidelines
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**Legislation and Policy Enactment** represents codification of research outputs into public law, guidelines, standards or policy.

- Smoke-free Air Acts
- Internal Development Definitions (IAD) Acts
- ANSI Standards
- AHA Guidelines for Design and Construction of Health Care Facilities
- Testimony given by a researcher investigator before a governing body supports creation of a bill and/or regulations

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diffusion represents knowledge transfer of research outputs into meaningful outcomes. diffusion is manifested in various pathways.

to understand the true impact of research, it is necessary to analyze the research study process in the clinical and biomedical research environment to identify tangible indicators of research impact that are not readily discernible using citation analysis.

PATHWAYS TO RESEARCH IMPACT

Research Impact: The Ocular Hypertension Treatment Study http://ohts.wustl.edu/

\[ "It is no longer enough to measure what we can – we need to measure what matters." \]

-- Wells & Whithurst