

## Research Institutions without Walls

A network can be loosely defined as a structure linking together individual and organizational actors with shared goals or values, though often not a shared geography. A large body of literature highlights the important interaction between knowledge and networks. Interest in the impact of networking on knowledge translation and exchange, diffusion of innovations, knowledge management, and organizational outcomes is also increasing <sup>1</sup>. There has been a growing interest in research networks and its implications on the creation of new knowledge. For example, there seems to be a consensus that those "scientists who collaborate with each other are more productive, oftentimes producing 'better' science, than are individual investigators. An open science platform can empower researchers in their daily work and where everybody has equal opportunity to seek, share and generate knowledge. A value network can be defined as a network of relationships, which creates both tangible and intangible value through a complicated dynamic exchange between individuals, groups and organisations <sup>2</sup>. The partnership for research and innovation in the health system funding opportunity recognizes the need to create networks of health researchers and clinical practitioners that can generate solutions to improve sustainable quality and value for money in the health system. The partnership for health research and innovation in the health system will support research and innovation.

It seems that the concept of research networking in developing countries with several limitations such as research budgets should be engraved in the minds rather than papers.

## References

1. Abbott S, Petchey R, Kessel A, Killoran A. What sort of networks are public health networks? *Public Health* 2006; 120(6):551-556.
2. Hara N, Hew KF. Knowledge sharing in an online community of health care professionals. *Inform Technol People* 2007;20(3):235-261.

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