

Evaluation of Health Policy: How Well Have the Policies on Prevention and Control of Ischemic Heart Disease Been Evaluated in Sri Lanka?

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Introduction

Policy development and implementation are integral and continuing process of economic development of a country. How to ensure that the research evidence is meaningfully utilized is a major concern for policy makers and managers since it has a greater impact on the policy making process, the service delivery and professional practice (Nutley et al, 2002).

At the same way, the need for scientific analysis of clinical research and research informed policy making is increasingly recognized and it's really a global pressure for accountability and emerging focus (Clancy, C. M., Stryer, D. B., & Tunis, S. R., 2003; Hanney, S. R., Gonzalez-Block, M. A., & Buxton, M. J., 2003; Sadoulet, E., & De Janvry, A., 1995). Improve patients' lives efficiently and economic benefits can be considered as two obligations for health policy makers in implementing a policy. The two obligations will be fulfilled respectively through the choice of methods for designing a policy and through the policy statement.

Recently there are many literature and review literature focused on the relationship between production of scientific knowledge and its use in policy formulation and implementation (Almeida, C. & Báscolo, E., 2006). Similarly, a range of factors are involved in interactions between health research and policy-makers and many gaps identified as existence of inadequate supply of policy relevant research (Keating, Maxwell, & Stone, 2001). Such research impact can take many forms and has various facets; for example, it may focus on translation on specific research findings or be concerned with the redesign of the already implemented policy process and service delivery practices (Nutley, S., Davies, H., & Walter, I., 2002).

There are several formats used by the international bodies in policy formulation approach (Heckman, J. J., & Vytlačil, E., 2005; Morestin, 2012; Bardach, E. & Patashnik, E. M.,