



TELEMATICS

..using telematics
to foster
“best heart health
practices”
through a culture
of consensus,
shared values and
partnership building

PROMOTING heart HEALTH



www.med.mun.ca/g8hearthealth



WHAT IS IT?

Cardiovascular Disease (CVD) is the main cause of death and a major cause of disability and health care costs in industrialized and many developing countries. It is an area where major health gains can be made through the implementation of primary health care interventions and basic public health measures targeting lifestyle and the environment.

The telematics application allows access, through the Internet, to practical knowledge and experience on the implementation of heart health interventions directed to entire populations or individuals at risk.

This initiative is part of the **G8 Improving the Prevention,**

Diagnosis and Treatment of Cardiovascular Disease, Health Care Applications Project in which G8 countries and others are participating

The Collaborating Centres document hearthealth projects and programs in a wide range of health promotion and disease prevention areas.

The case-studies documented in the G8 Database originate from national and international health agencies, preventive health services, medical institutions, health promotion centres of excellence, community health coalitions, health promotion agencies, non-governmental organizations, the media and the private sector.

The **G8 database** is a tool to learn about **best heart health**

practices from past and current experiences, by identifying interventions that have worked best or by determining attributes or characteristics that contribute to the success and sustainability of interventions.

Relevant areas for case study description include: worksite health promotion, school health, community- based heart health initiatives, risk factor screening programs, national campaigns, professional education, dissemination of clinical guidelines and cardiac rehabilitation.

Heart health issues of interest are: tobacco control, diet, physical activity, psychosocial factors, hypertension, diabetes, lipids, multiple risk factor interventions and programs for groups such as children and youth, women, the elderly and the disadvantaged.

Potential Users of the

Telematics Application are:

practitioners in health promotion, public health, primary health care, and rehabilitation;

individuals with responsibility for policy development, community mobilization, health service delivery and marketing. The **G8 Database** should be of interest to policy makers, researchers and students.

TOOLS

Standards for Documentation of Heart Health Projects, a sixty-two question instrument is used to describe case studies.

The Standards cover goals of the project or intervention, target groups, risk factors addressed, delivery channels, approaches and strategies used, activities undertaken, availability of staff and volunteers, project management and organization, financing, facilitators and barriers, outputs and products, evaluation, sustainability and dissemination.

DATABASE

The case-study descriptions of various interventions are the “records” of the **G8 Database**.

The Database is located at Memorial University, Newfoundland, Canada. It has been developed with industry standard database development tools and can be consulted over the internet or as a stand alone application.

Provisions are being made to set up similar databases in Collaborating Centres of participating countries.

FUNCTIONALITIES

View a listing of all projects.

View all or selected information pertaining to a single project.

View a list of variables in the database, a glossary of terminology, and the table definitions.

Search or query the database by descriptor(s) pertaining to risk factor, delivery channel, target group, country and any combination thereof.

Download the Standards for Documentation of Heart Health Projects in PDF version (for printing only) or a Word 97 template (for data entry). There is an option for on-line **direct data** entry on the WEB page.



GETTING INVOLVED

Log- in and browse:

www.med.mun.ca/g8hearthealth

If a case study in the **G8 database** is of interest to you, contact the author directly for more information.

Submit a case study:

Download the Standards for Documentation of Heart Health Projects and describe your project or intervention. Your intervention need not be a “best practice” and it does not have to be a research project. It is important that you include all the necessary background on the project, as outlined in the Standards. Your project will be easier to document, if an evaluation has already been carried out or is already underway.

Take the time to comment:

Send an e-mail to aedwards@mun.ca with ideas on how to expand the database and improve its functionalities. Shared observations about training events and exciting projects will benefit everyone using the **G8 database**.

“WE HAVE THE SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE TO CREATE A WORLD IN WHICH MOST HEART DISEASE AND STROKE COULD BE ELIMINATED.”

(Victoria Declaration on Heart Health, 1992)



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