



## Poster Board 1:

# Engaging With Everyone Toolkit: Advancing Equity-Focused Patient Partnerships Through Co-Designed Tools

### Presenters:

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### Description:

Equity Mobilizing Partnerships in Community (EMPaCT) is a co-designed innovation that creates opportunities for inclusive patient partnerships and promotes health equity in tangible ways. EMPaCT has co-created the "Engaging with Everyone Toolkit", a collection of virtual tools for project implementers to adapt to their settings to promote inclusive equity-focused patient engagement.

### Poster board objectives and learning outcomes:

- The attendees will recall the theory-based process of co-creating the EMPaCT "Engaging with Everyone Toolkit"
- The attendees will identify and describe the outputs of the co-designed toolkit within its three sections
- The attendees will summarize EMPaCT's approach to co-evaluating the outcomes and impact of the toolkit in promoting Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Accessibility & Allyship (IDEAA) in patient partnerships

## Full description:

### **Challenge:**

Most patient engagement practices continue to be unsuccessful in engaging with diverse individuals. As a result, individuals from structurally seldom-heard communities – communities that are underrepresented, underresourced and underserved – continue to be left out of decision-making reinforcing structural marginalization and worsening health inequities.

### **Action:**

Equity Mobilizing Partnerships in Community (EMPaCT) is a co-designed, award-winning, spreadable and scalable innovation in diverse patient engagement that creates opportunities for inclusive participation and promotes health equity in tangible and identifiable ways. EMPaCT values the voices of community members by transforming their collective lens of diverse lived experience into Health Equity Analyses (HEAs) to project implementers. Guided by the knowledge-to-action framework (Graham et al., 2006), we have co-created the “Engaging with Everyone Toolkit.” The toolkit is a collection of lessons learned from co-designing EMPaCT; it provides virtual resources for project implementers to adapt to their settings to promote inclusive engagement with structurally seldom-heard communities. The “Engaging with Everyone Toolkit” is composed of three main sections, each enabling the users to better engage with diverse patients in their projects. In the presentation, we aim to share with attendees: An overview of the EMPaCT model of diverse and inclusive patient engagement; the theory-based process of co-creating the EMPaCT “Engaging with Everyone Toolkit”; a description of the outputs of the co-designed Toolkit (e.g., downloadable guides and activities); and our approach to co-evaluating the outcomes and impact of the toolkit in promoting Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Accessibility & Allyship (IDEAA) in patient partnerships.

**Impact:**

Building diverse and inclusive partnerships takes dedicated time and effort – however, the processes, outcomes, and outputs of such participatory activities often remain invisible and unacknowledged. Knowing how to do equity-focused patient-oriented research is a key applied knowledge gap that is addressed by the “Engaging with Everyone Toolkit.” EMPaCT is working towards a release in mid-2024 for the “Engaging with Everyone Toolkit.” The toolkit will be evaluated following its release through user surveys; user contact information will be gathered once they are prompted to download the toolkit. In the surveys, users will be able to comment on the effectiveness and usability of the toolkit in their patient engagement settings as well as provide any areas for improvement. In addition to surveys, the number of downloads of the toolkit from EMPaCT’s website will be monitored.

**Trajectory:**

By disseminating lessons learned from co-designing EMPaCT (the processes, outcomes, and outputs) we are responding to an applied knowledge gap and in doing so are enabling other patient-partnered project teams across Canada to develop transferable skills and embed principles of IDEAA into their practices.