# Checklist for Patient Partners in Research

Patient refers to individuals with lived experience of a health issue, including family members and other informal caregivers\*

## **Research Stages**

## **Considerations for Patient Partners**

#1 Pre-planning



#### What Should I Know?

- · Who are the team members?
- · What are the roles & responsibilities?
- How will I be expected to participate?
- How much time will I need to spend on the project?
- Am I being reimbursed and/or compensated?
- How much research knowledge do I need?
- What am I comfortable/capable of contributing?



#2 Preparatory



## **How Can I Help?**

Finalize the research question, study design and protocol; complete funding applications

- How does my lived experience inform the research question and study objectives?
- · How does my lived experience inform the outcome measures used?
- How can I help choose the measurement tools so they are userfriendly?
- Can I ensure that study documents use participant-friendly language?
- Can I give any advice on how best to recruit?
- How can I assist with funding applications?

#3 Execution



NEWS

### What Comes Next?

Preparing for study start; recruitment, collect and analyze data

- · What advice can I give to improve study recruitment?
- What are the best ways to collect data?
- Can I give advice to overcome any barriers?
- How can my lived experience inform results after data analysis?

#4 Knowledge Translation



## **How Can We Share Our Results?**

Communicate research findings

- Can I write a lay summary of the study results?
- How and with who do we share the results?
- Can I share the results with my own networks and communities?
- Will I be asked to present the results (webinar, conferences)?









# Patient Partners' Role in Research

For a respectful and mutual partnership, communication between researchers and patient partners should be open and honest

## **Research Stages**

## **The Role for Patient Partners**

#1 Pre-planning



## Joining the Project Team

- Intro to whole team with charter, roles, bios, pictures and meeting
- Understand the project: topic, develop or refine the research question, current stage
- Timelines for meetings, tasks, project duration
- Expenses & compensation: travel, parking, honoraria
- Understanding basic research language and terms:
  CIHR Jargon Buster: http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/48952.html
- Understand the ethical requirements TCPS 2: Core Online tutorial for researchers detailing ethical conduct regardless of methods or area of study. https://tcps2core.ca/welcome

#2 Preparatory



## Finalizing the Project Plan

Finalize the research question, study design and protocol; complete funding applications

- Review proposal drafts, with specific contributions to sections on patient engagement, timeline, budget and knowledge transfer
- Ensure that outcomes and measures reflect lived experience
- Help develop scripts and participant communication materials (consent form, emails, information letters)
- Advice to help recruitment strategies

#3 Execution



## **During the Study**

Preparing for study start; recruitment, collect and analyze data

- Suggestions for improving recruitment, network with patient groups
- Patient perspective on study results

#4 Knowledge Translation



## **Sharing the Study Results**

Communicate research findings

- Help coordinate dissemination plan
- Develop public-friendly versions of results
- · Advise on use of social media
- Co-publish in a variety of formats (Journals, blogs, newsletters)
- Co-present results (webinar, conferences)







