Theme 1 High Level Overview
Presentation for Team Meeting
April 4, 2006

ACTION for Health

Document Status:

☐ Published Paper ☐ Practitioner’s Pointers
☐ Working Paper ☐ Briefing Note
☐ Report ☐ Research Tool
☐ Draft ☐ Overview
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Team Meeting, April 4, 2006
Vancouver, BC
Progress

- New projects initiated (e.g., Rural HIV/AIDS Study)
- Several projects completed (e.g., BC Cancer Agency)
- Most projects progressed (Most have some findings)
- Numerous presentations (To partners and academic organizations)
- Several reports completed (e.g., Measuring Ethnicity)
- Several publications completed (e.g., Web survey)
- Some actions affected by projects (e.g., redesign of BC HG Website)
- Common understanding built (e.g., STS Training; Collaborative projects)
- Common sub-themes identified
Sub-Themes

- Methodology
- Contexts (Health Care, Libraries)
- Intermediaries
- Economically and Socially Disadvantaged Populations (Indigenous, Women, Rural)
- Trust and Concern
- Literacy/Health Literacy/Information Literacy/Numeracy
- Accessing Health Information
- Constraints on Technology Use
- Quality of Relationships
- Use of Information
- Managing Fear/Undermining Hope
- Differences between words and deeds/self-assessments and skill assessments
- Culture
- Empowerment
- Definitions
Sub-Themes (Continued)

- Ways of Knowing
- Shifting of Responsibility
- Confidence
- Evidence
- Tension
- Citizenship
- Self-Help
- Identity
- Disjunction between perceptions of public and professionals
- Social Determinants of Health
- Role of research and researchers (Reflexivity)
Implications for Theme 2 and 3

- In Australian study, health workers were found to have been allowed to have only limited access to the Internet.
- In Vancouver study, library staff were found to have mixed feelings about Internet; recognized that it gave them credibility but also were anxious about the effect of their interpretations of information on consumers.
- In BC HealthGuide evaluation, it has become apparent that RNs experience some difficulties in playing their new role and are under stress because of management changes and the need to follow protocols.
- To what extent does the “Information Therapy” approach affect the legal and ethical relationship between patients and providers; does it lead to a contract in law which puts the blame on the consumer?
Possible Future Directions

- More collaborative studies
- More sharing of tools/approaches
- More intervention studies
- More emphasis on the study of context
- More methodological research
- More reflexivity
- More dissemination (KT, KE)
- New collaborators and partners