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THE TRANSLATION OF SPORTS INJURY PREVENTION AND SAFETY PROMOTION KNOWLEDGE: INSIGHTS FROM KEY ORGANISATIONS

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Background A recognised research-to-practice gap exists in the field of sports injury prevention and safety promotion. The role of key organisations in increasing the relevancy, accessibility, and legitimacy of injury prevention and safety promotion research knowledge for sport settings remains under-explored.

Objective This study sought to provide new insight into the knowledge translation activities undertaken by a set of key organisations that work to ‘bridge the gap’ between research and practice in sport settings.

Design Semi-structured face-to-face interviews about organisational processes of knowledge translation were undertaken with representatives from five key organisations.

Setting The National Guidance for Australian Football Partnerships and Safety (NoGAPS) project provided a clear and purposeful context for this study.

Participants The participants in this study were the self-nominated representatives from the following NoGAPS partnership organisations: 1) Australian Football League, 2) Victorian Health Promotion Foundation, 3) JLT Sport as a division of Jardine Lloyd Thompson Australia Pty Ltd, 4) Sport and Recreation Victoria, and 5) Sports Medicine Australia.

Main Outcome Measurements A qualitative descriptive methodology was used to analyse participants' descriptions of knowledge translation activities undertaken at their respective organisations.

Results Several knowledge translation processes and considerations emerged around three key themes: 1) identifying a need for knowledge translation, 2) developing and disseminating resources, and 3) barriers and enablers to knowledge translation.

Conclusions This study provides new insight into knowledge translation processes that key organisations undertake when developing and disseminating injury prevention and safety promotion resources for sport settings. The role these organisations play in increasing the relevancy, accessibility, and legitimacy of research knowledge through the development of useful injury prevention and safety promotion resources is key to influencing policy and practice in sport settings.