

## Advancing in the institutionalization of Evidence-Informed Policy in Brazil

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EVIPNet Brazil was launched in 2007, coordinated by the Ministry of Health. Its expansion has promoted the institutionalization of a national knowledge translation platform, and has also been active at the local level. Local Health Evidence Labs were implemented to institutionalize working groups linked to EVIPNet. In this multiple case study, we discuss the advances in the institutionalization of Evidence-Informed Policy-making in Brazil, based on a mapping of the Health Evidence Labs' institutional capacity to acquire, evaluate, adapt and apply evidence and analyzed organizational arrangements and implementation barriers. The coordinators of 15 responded to a self-assessment questionnaire from the

Canadian Health Services Research Foundation. The main products reported are evidence briefs and deliberative dialogues focused on regional problems, training activities and different kinds of rapid responses. Health Evidence Labs have the resources to acquire and evaluate research evidence, but have a low capacity to adapt and apply evidence, indicating that they do not have all the factors (skills, structures, processes, and organizational culture) to promote and use research results in decision-making. The lower capacity to 'adapt' and 'apply' evidence may be related to low development of exchange process with external experts. Governance is joined between managers of the departments with technical bodies; the service provision occurs to attend internal and external demands; financing is public or utilizing public research calls. The implementation barriers described are the staff turnover, inadequate funding arrangements for development knowledge translation products, paid access to evidence databases, lack of a repository for their production, and lack of monitoring and evaluation. Brazil has improved in the institutionalization of evidence-informed policy but still some important barriers to achieve a complete national knowledge translation platform.

**Key messages:**

- Brazil has institutionalized evidence-informed policy from the structuring of EVIPNet Brazil Network.
- To achieve the network sustainability, it is vital to consider the alignment of organizational elements with an emphasis on governance, financing, and its monitoring.