



Workshop on “Disciplines Research” Overview

Goal: Develop publication(s) articulating and describing a fuller understanding of “disciplines research”

- **Set-up (5 minutes)**
- **Breakout groups (30 minutes)**
 - **Definition**
 - **Methods**
 - **Clarifying Stakeholder Value**
 - **Overcoming Funding Obstacles**
- **Report out & next steps (20 minutes)**

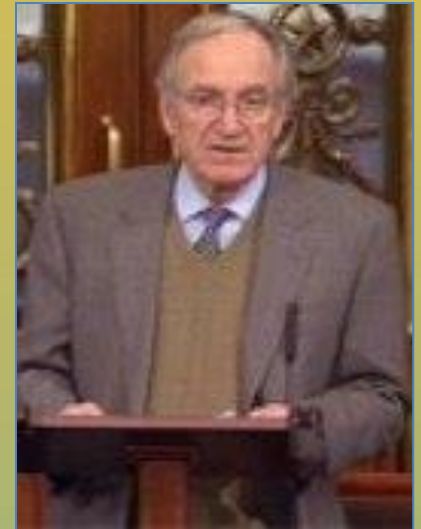
1st Use of “Disciplines” as a Research Subject: 1998 Congressional Mandate Founding NCCAM

(a) IN GENERAL.—The general purposes of [NCCAM] are the conduct and support of basic and applied research ... **with respect to identifying, investigating, and validating complementary and alternative treatment, diagnostic and prevention modalities, disciplines and systems ...**”

See mandate here:

http://theintegratorblog.com/site/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=606&Itemid=189

“Modalities, Systems & Disciplines” or some variant used 8 times in an 11 section mandate



US Senator Tom Harkin (D-Iowa)
Principal architect, NCCAM 1998
mandate

Other Examples of “Disciplines Research” in the Congressional Mandate

- [c] “the Director ... shall, as appropriate, study the integration of alternative treatment, diagnostic and prevention ... **disciplines with the practice of conventional medicine** as a complement to such medicine **and into health care delivery systems in the United States**
- “**Evaluate each of the disciplines** ... with which the Center is concerned ... **including each discipline** ... in which accreditation, national certification, or a State license is available.
- In order to ensure high quality, rigorous scientific review of ... **disciplines** ...the Center shall [engage] the following activities: **(1) Outcomes research and investigations; (2) Epidemiological studies; (3) Health services research; (4) Basic science research; (5) Clinical trials; (6) Other appropriate research and investigational activities.**



Language passed by Congress in a two-page document to guide NCCAM's creation



Sample Uses of “Disciplines” in NCCAM 2011-2015 Strategic Plan

“Disciplines” went from 1 use to 35 uses between the draft and final plan

- Strategic Objective #1: Advance Research on Mind and Body Interventions, Practices and **Disciplines**
- “Exploring the role of specific promising CAM ... **disciplines** (e.g., meditation, yoga, or acupuncture) in developing better strategies for alleviating symptoms (e.g., chronic pain, stress) or in promoting healthier lifestyles.”
- “Research on the contributions of CAM ... **disciplines** in promoting or supporting health-seeking behavior ...”
- “ ... develop evidence, based in real-world practices and use, about the potential of CAM ... **disciplines** to contribute to better treatment and health promotion ... “



Sample Uses of “Disciplines” in NCCAM 2011-2015 Strategic Plan

- “ ... The potential role of CAM ... **disciplines** in supporting healthy lifestyles and well-being.”
- “The disciplines of observational, outcomes, health services, and effectiveness research offer a number of tools, methods, and pragmatic study designs for gathering useful evidence regarding CAM ... **disciplines** on a larger scale than typical clinical trials.”
- “Conduct research on the potential of CAM interventions, practices, or **disciplines** to support healthy lifestyle behaviors and behavior change. Many CAM **disciplines**, systems of traditional medicine, and integrative medicine practices place a strong emphasis on preventive health strategies, including better dietary practices and regular physical exercise. “
- “Research on the contributions of CAM ... **disciplines** in promoting or supporting health-seeking behavior is another area of special public health need and scientific opportunity.”

Proposed Starting Definition Based on ACCAHC Letter to NCCAM – Oct. 2010

“Disciplines Research”

Disciplines research captures the outcomes of multiple members of a given health professional discipline who meet a clear practice standard *in order to inform the decisions of consumers, practitioners, third-party payers, health systems, employers and other stakeholders for including new disciplines in healthcare delivery.

* e.g. the licensed disciplines of chiropractic, acupuncture and Oriental medicine, massage therapy, naturopathic medicine, home birth midwifery and, as they evolve, board certified integrative MDs

Breakout Groups & Facilitators

- **Definition** (Martha Menard)
- **Methods** (Carlo Calabrese)
- **Clarifying Stakeholder Value** (John Weeks)
- **Overcoming Funding Obstacles** (Greg Cramer)

30 minutes, then 20 minutes report out/next steps





Disciplines Research graphic by Carlo Calabrese, ND, MPH

Thank You!

jweeks@accahc.org; mbmenard@gmail.com