Practitioner-Researcher Collaboration is a model for conducting research in which practitioners and researchers co-create knowledge. In a collaborative manner, knowledge users and researchers jointly devise the research agenda including determining the research question and methods, interpreting the results, and disseminating the findings.

In this poster the collaborative process utilized by a researcher and allied health, medical and mental health professionals in community teaching hospitals, and mental health agencies will be described. Though not necessarily the main reason for developing this research collaboration, this complex arrangement can be a powerful means of improving the translation of research into practice. Flexibility may be required to accommodate various collaboration configurations. How does this collaborative effort work?

These elements may be considered as The Good, the Not So Good and the Tricky. The Good refers to factors that facilitate the research, for example, practitioners have the field experience that can be used to determine research questions highly relevant to clinical practice. Of great import is the successful development of a respectful working relationship. The Not So Good refers to limitations, i.e. limited knowledge investigators may have of operations within supportive care. The Tricky refers to challenges to the successful completion of the research, such as difficulty in securing resources.