

## Using Research in the Real World: State Integrated Research

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### Presentation Overview

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- Model of informed state policy
- Involving states in the research process
- State Integrated Research (SIR)
- Pitfalls of not involving state partners

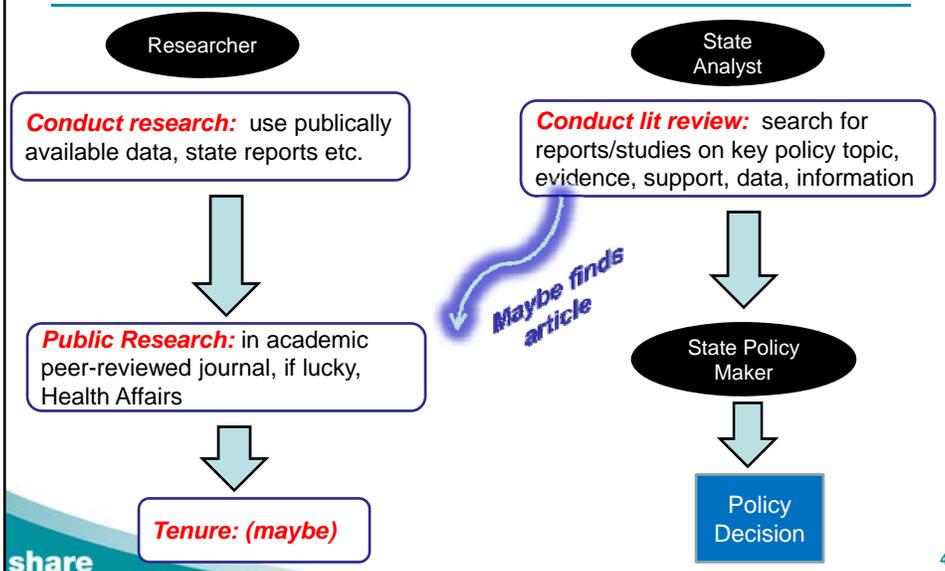
## State policy-makers turn to state-level research to answer the following:

- What are the policy options?
- What other states have tried them?
- Do they work?
  - e.g. increase access, improve quality, etc.
- How much does it cost?

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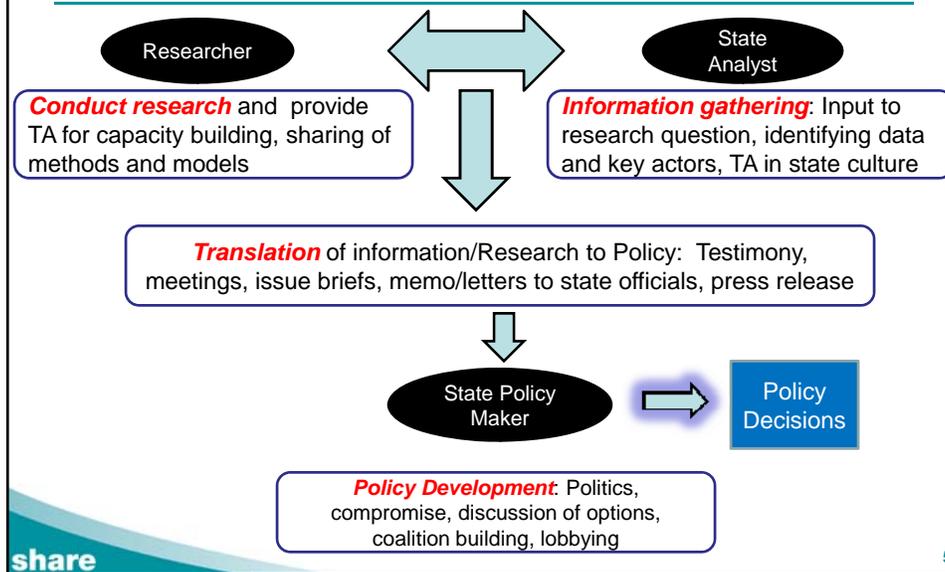
## Un-Informed State Health Policy Research



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## Informed State Health Policy Research



## State Integrated Research (SIR)

- A collaborative approach to research that depends on state participation throughout the research process
- State involved from the beginning by driving the research agenda
- Researcher committed to communicating findings to state in various ways
- Success of SIR hinges on connecting with the correct state contacts at various stages

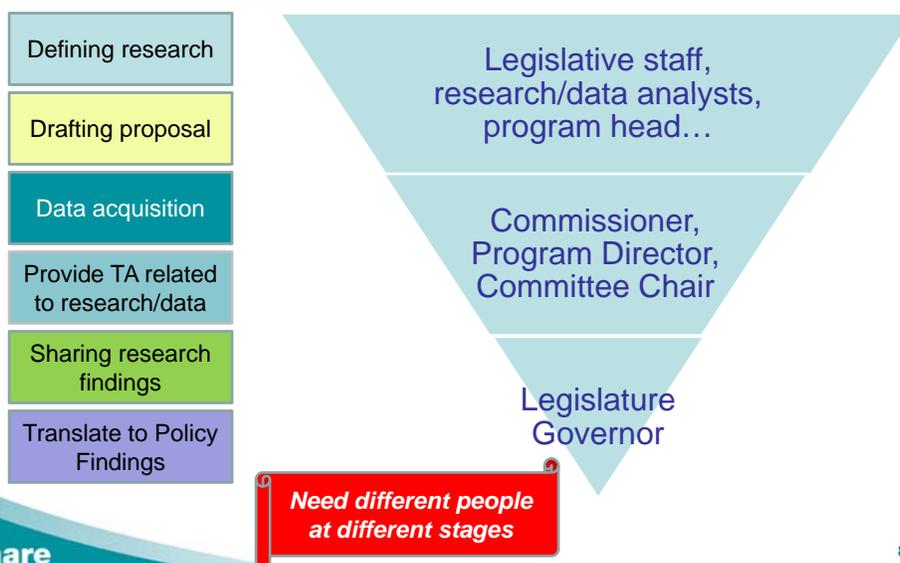
## Four Steps to State Integrated Research

- 1) Determine the stage of research
- 2) Identify appropriate institutions and individuals
- 3) Maintain communication with state contacts
- 4) Use agreed-upon methods to share results - **TRANSLATION**

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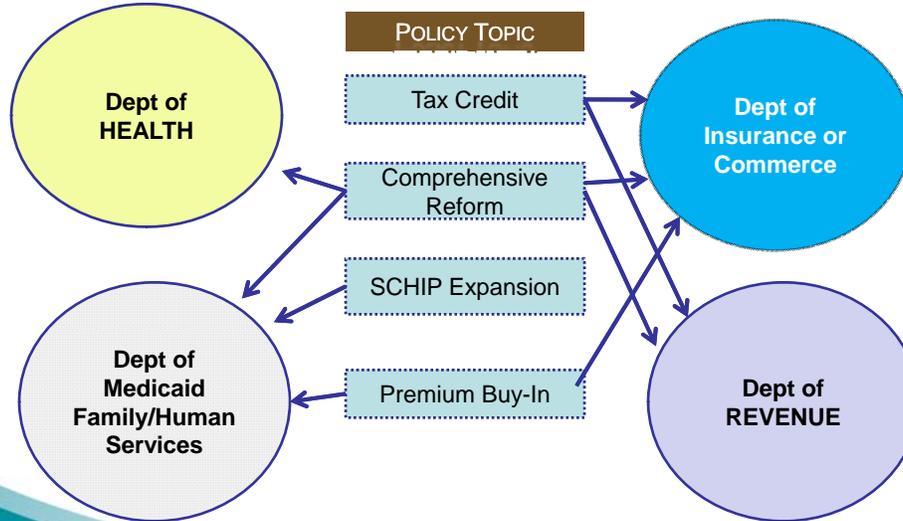
## Step 1: Determine stage of research



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## Step 2: Identify appropriate institutions and individuals



## Step 3: Maintain communication with state contacts

- Researchers and state partners should be in touch throughout the research process
- Identify key people to share preliminary findings and ongoing challenges
- Development of synergy and trust between research and state needs

## Step 4: Use agreed-upon methods to share results

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- **Capacity building workshop:** demonstrate new method or use of data
- **Technical assistance:** assist with implementation of new model, forecast or technical finding
- **Issue Brief:** Technical finding with a policy consequence
- **Testimony:** to key committee, advisory group, legislative hearing
- **Press Release**

## Challenges to State Integrated Research

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- Time constraints of policy process
- Research results might not line up with state interests – then what?
- Tension between “client” (state) who is paying and research that is “objective”
- Communication of methodological approach and need for sound research
  - *Translation is critical.....*
- Input to decision-making process not making the decision...

## Without State Involvement

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- Difficult to access needed data
- Access to data will be time consuming or blocked
- IRB process may be stalled
- Findings will be overlooked or ignored
- Information from findings will not reach key decision makers
- Research will not inform policy

## Example of State-Integrated Research effort

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- State Health Access Research Evaluation
  - RWJF National Program Office
- Co-located with the State Health Access Data Assistance Center (SHADAC)
  - *Providing technical assistance*
  - *Link to states and state analysts*
- Funding 15 projects in 23 states

## Contact information

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[www.shadac.org/share](http://www.shadac.org/share)

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