

## **Paper Session B1: Contemporary Issues in Nursing Science**

### ***When is Enough Research Enough? The Dilemma For Translation***

Jacqueline Dunbar-Jacob, PhD, RN, FAAN, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA

**Purpose:** The purpose of this presentation is to describe the process used to evaluate evidence for translation to practice or the community. The process will be illustrated by the State of the Science Conference on Preventing Alzheimer's Disease and Cognitive Decline.

**Background:** Concern has been expressed about the interval of time between the identification of scientific advances and adoption in practice. The average time is 20 years. Indeed, the Clinical and Translational Science Awards were established to speed the translation of science along the pathway to utilization. One of the decision factors in T3 translation is whether the science is of adequate quality to warrant recommendations to practice or the community. The NIH Office of Medical Applications supports State of the Science and Consensus Conferences to evaluate evidence and make such recommendations. A recent example is the State of the Science Conference on Preventing Alzheimer's Disease and Cognitive Decline.

**Approach:** The process of evaluating evidence will be discussed, illustrated by the evidence review process for the Preventing Alzheimer's Disease and Cognitive Decline State of the Science Conference. Issues such as selection and review of the evidence, quality and extent of the evidence, maintaining freedom from bias, the role of expert opinion, and the breadth of the impact of recommendations will be examined. Implications for nursing research and translation will be discussed.

**Major Points and Rationale:** With the urgent attention on speed of translation of research to practice, concern arises about the readiness of evidence for adoption. The process of ensuring the readiness of evidence for utilization needs to be addressed.

**Conclusions:** There is a need for establishing adequate evidence review processes for nursing research findings prior to translating them into the practice setting.