



The Australian Prevention  
Partnership Centre  
Systems and solutions for better health

## Systems expert series

### Presenter

Professor Allan Best  
Managing Director, InSource  
Research Group  
Clinical Professor, School of  
Population and Public Health,  
University of British Columbia,  
Canada

### Monday 23 February 2015

Aerial UTS Function Centre  
Level 7, Building 10,  
235 Jones Street, Ultimo  
3.45 - 5.15pm  
Afternoon tea from 3.45pm  
Presentation begins at 4pm

### Who should attend?

Policy makers, program managers  
and researchers looking for new  
ideas to prevent chronic disease

### To register

Please register [HERE](#)  
by **Wednesday**  
**18 February 2015**

Attendance is free

### For more information

Nick Barker-Pendree on  
(02) 9188 5576

### The Australian Prevention Partnership Centre

The Prevention Centre is a national  
initiative that is researching and  
developing systems approaches  
to find the most effective ways to  
prevent lifestyle-related chronic  
health problems in Australia.

More information: [www.saxinstitute.org.au/our-work/preventing-chronic-disease](http://www.saxinstitute.org.au/our-work/preventing-chronic-disease)

## Partnering for change

### Linking research, policy and practice in a complex world

Partnering for change to achieve a better prevention system is challenging. Prevention priorities and their solutions are complex – making things better has more to do with relationships, and how we work together in networks across traditional silos, than it has to do with a health system.

The ways we usually think about linking research, policy and practice don't work very well. We need a new way to understand complex processes – synthesising knowledge, designing integrated strategies and measuring impacts.

Professor Allan Best will review existing models for moving from knowledge to action and sketch new ways of framing the problem and processes that are better suited to complex adaptive systems. Simple rules for shaping better prevention systems are starting to emerge, and will be illustrated with recent examples from Canada, including:

- Concept mapping to guide a national initiative targeting chronic disease
- Rapid realist reviews and evaluations around large system change
- A concept mapping project to describe the ways in which prevention networks are measuring impact
- A realist review of strategies for scaling up promising innovations.

Professor Best will also reflect on implications for the Australian context, and call for international collaboration in developing related tools and methods to evaluate impacts.



Professor Allan Best

### Professor Allan Best

Professor Best is Managing Director of InSource Research Group, a Vancouver-based health services and population health research group with expertise in knowledge translation and exchange, systems thinking and communications. InSource serves health systems decision makers, offering whole systems research, planning and evaluation tools to support large-scale organisational change.

He is also Associate Scientist in the Centre for Clinical Epidemiology and Evaluation, Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute and a Clinical Professor in the School of Population and Public Health at the University of British Columbia. His research focuses on systems thinking and organisational change, creating the teams, models, structures and tools that foster effective knowledge to action for health policy and programs.

Professor Best was founding Chair of the Department of Health Studies at the University of Waterloo in Canada, the world's first interdisciplinary department integrating the biological and behavioural sciences to study health promotion.

### Our funding partners



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