

# Peer Reviewer Resource:

## Broadening your assessment of research contributions and impacts

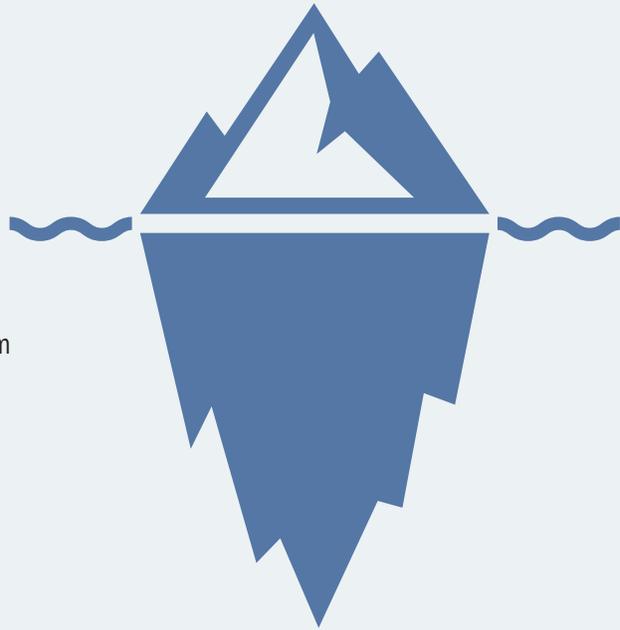
There is more than meets the eye when it comes to a researcher's track record. It is therefore crucial that peer reviewers look broadly, beyond the traditional indicators of productivity, when assessing contributions and impacts.

### Historically valued

Publications and citations  
 Reports and books  
 Prestigious awards  
 Number/size of grants  
 Knowledge mobilization outputs & activities

### Other valuable research outputs

Influence on policy and practice  
 Public engagement (including public, patients, providers, policymakers/government, researchers, industry, mainstream and social media)  
 Community-based participatory research  
 Training & mentorship  
 Volunteerism  
 Guidelines, standards, software and tools  
 Networks, collaborations and partnerships  
 Datasets, code and infrastructure development  
 Commercialized and open-access products



## DO

- Consider a broad range of research contributions and impacts in research assessment
- Assess **quality** (e.g., distinctions-based, meaningful and culturally safe health research) and **impact** (e.g., influence on policy and practice, health and societal outcomes) directly, where possible
- Consider the context of the applicant (e.g., leave history, career stage, area(s) of research, experiential knowledge and lived and living experience, diverse career paths, family responsibilities, pandemic impact, barriers to entry facing individuals from underrepresented, rights-holding and/or equity-deserving groups)

## DON'T

- Use metrics in isolation to assess productivity, such as number of publications and citations, and size/number of research grants
- Use journal-based metrics (e.g. Journal Impact Factors) as surrogate measures of quality and impact of individual research publications

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[CIHR'S BIAS IN PEER REVIEW MODULE](#)

Adapted from: "Visible vs invisible skills and experience" by UK Research and Innovation (March 2023)