

trans • lat'ion • al

"T ranslation" has its roots in two Latin words, *trans*, meaning *across*, and *latus*, the past participle of the verb *ferro*, meaning *to carry*. Hence translation is the carrying across of something to another place or another form (or, most commonly, another language). The adjective "translational" simply refers to the activity or the thing that is carried, and in health research the term is commonly applied to studies seeking to carry basic research discoveries across the gap to actual practice.

Donaghue favors translational research, but not only in the sense of bridging the tiny space between basic science and the immediate next step, where actual application to a problem is first contemplated. Donaghue seeks to promote carrying the basic knowledge step after step, all the way along to a realizable practical benefit to human life. ▣

