

## Implementation Science Research at NIOSH

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**Workshop at the NIOSH Centers Meeting**

July 28, 2022

# Plans for today

Welcome and Introductions

Why does implementation science matter

How do we define solutions in implementation science

Implementation science and NIOSH

Implementation science theories, models, frameworks

Barriers, facilitators and strategies

Partner engagement in implementation science

Measuring success for implementation science

Additional resources, closing remarks, Q&A



**Please introduce yourself in the chat:**

- *Your name*
- *Your affiliation*
- *Why you did you decide to attend the workshop?*


**What is implementation science?  
Why does it matter?**





“The long-term goal of any health-related endeavor should ultimately be to improve the human condition through decreasing disease risk and prevalence and increasing the quality of life.”

Source: Emmons KM, Viswanath K, Colditz GA. *Am J Prev Med* 2008



**“Evidence-practice gap: The difference between what we know from the best available research evidence and what actually happens in current practice.”**

# Evidence-practice gap: Colorectal cancer screening

Population	Recommendation	Grade
Adults aged 50 to 75 years	The USPSTF recommends screening for colorectal cancer in all adults aged 50 to 75 years. See the "Practice Considerations" section and Table 1 for details about screening strategies.	A
Adults aged 45 to 49 years	The USPSTF recommends screening for colorectal cancer in adults aged 45 to 49 years. See the "Practice Considerations" section and Table 1 for details about screening strategies.	B
Adults aged 76 to 85 years	The USPSTF recommends that clinicians selectively offer screening for colorectal cancer in adults aged 76 to 85 years. Evidence indicates that the net benefit of screening all persons in this age group is small. In determining whether this service is appropriate in individual cases, patients and clinicians should consider the patient's overall health, prior screening history, and preferences.	C

**EVIDENCE ASSESSMENT** The USPSTF concludes with high certainty that screening for colorectal cancer in adults aged 50 to 75 years has substantial net benefit. The USPSTF concludes with moderate certainty that screening for colorectal cancer in adults aged 45 to 49 years has moderate net benefit. The USPSTF concludes with moderate certainty that screening for colorectal cancer in adults aged 76 to 85 years who have been previously screened has small net benefit. Adults who have never been screened for colorectal cancer are more likely to benefit.

**RECOMMENDATION** The USPSTF recommends screening for colorectal cancer in all adults aged 50 to 75 years. (A recommendation) The USPSTF recommends screening for colorectal cancer in adults aged 45 to 49 years. (B recommendation) The USPSTF recommends that clinicians selectively offer screening for colorectal cancer in adults aged 76 to 85 years. Evidence indicates that the net benefit of screening all persons in this age group is small. In determining whether this service is appropriate in individual cases, patients and clinicians should consider the patient's overall health, prior screening history, and preferences. (C recommendation)

# Evidence-practice gap: Colorectal cancer screening




## Increase the proportion of adults who get screened for colorectal cancer — C-07

Status: Baseline only 

[Learn more about our data release schedule](#)

 Most Recent Data:  
**65.2** percent (2018)

 Target:  
**74.4** percent

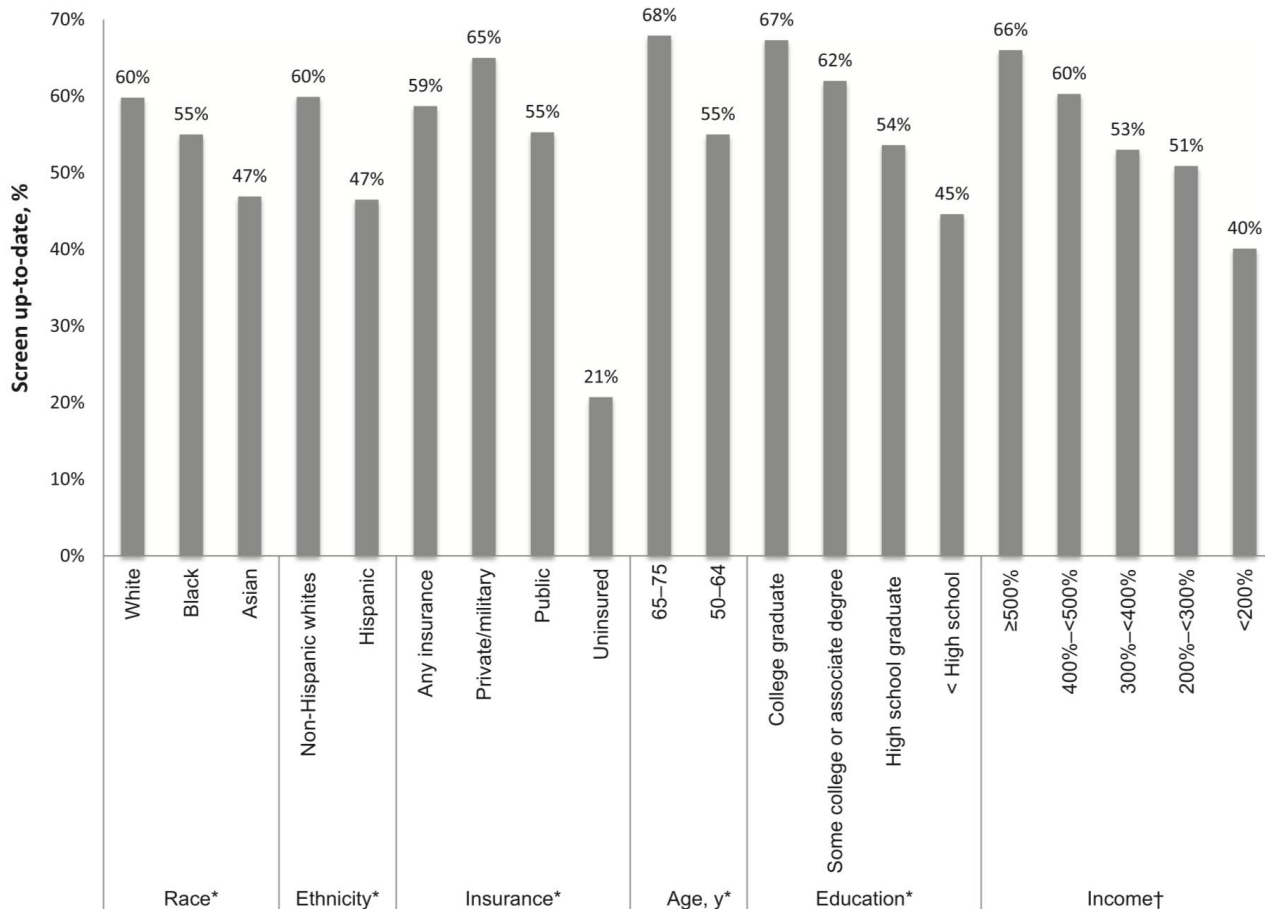


Desired Direction:  
**Increase desired**



Baseline:  
**65.2** percent of adults aged 50 to 75 years received a colorectal cancer screening based on the most recent guidelines in 2018 (age adjusted to the year 2000 standard population)

# Evidence-practice gap: Colorectal cancer screening



Gupta S, Sussman DA, Doubeni CA, Anderson DS, Day L, Deshpande AR, Elmunzer BJ, Laiyemo AO, Mendez J, Somsouk M, Allison J, Bhuket T, Geng Z, Green BB, Itzkowitz SH, Martinez ME. Challenges and possible solutions to colorectal cancer screening for the underserved. *J Natl Cancer Inst.* 2014 Apr;106(4):dju032.

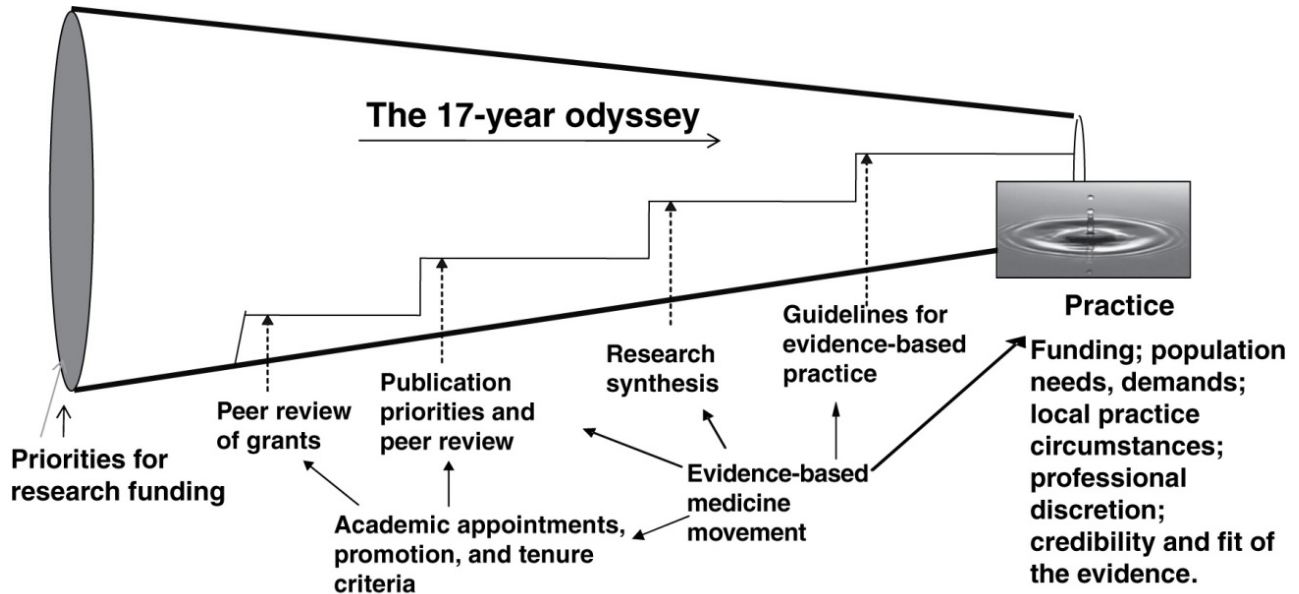




What does Implementation Science mean to you?

*Respond in the chat*

# The “leaky” research-to-practice pipeline



# Ultimate Impact of an Insurance-sponsored Weight Management Program in West Virginia

Dissemination step	Concept	% Impacted
8.8% of Weight Management sites participated	Adoption	8.80%
5.9% of members participated	Reach	0.52%
91.4% program components implemented	Implementation	0.47%
43.8% of participants showed weight loss	Effectiveness	0.21%
21.2% maintained benefit (individual)	Maintenance	0.04%



<sup>1</sup>Abildso CG, Zizzi SJ, Rege-Nash B. Evaluating an Insurance-sponsored Weight Management Program With the REIM Model, West Virginia, 2004-2008. Preventing Chronic Disease Public Health Research, Practice, and Policy. 2010. 7(3).





IF AN INTERVENTION WORKS

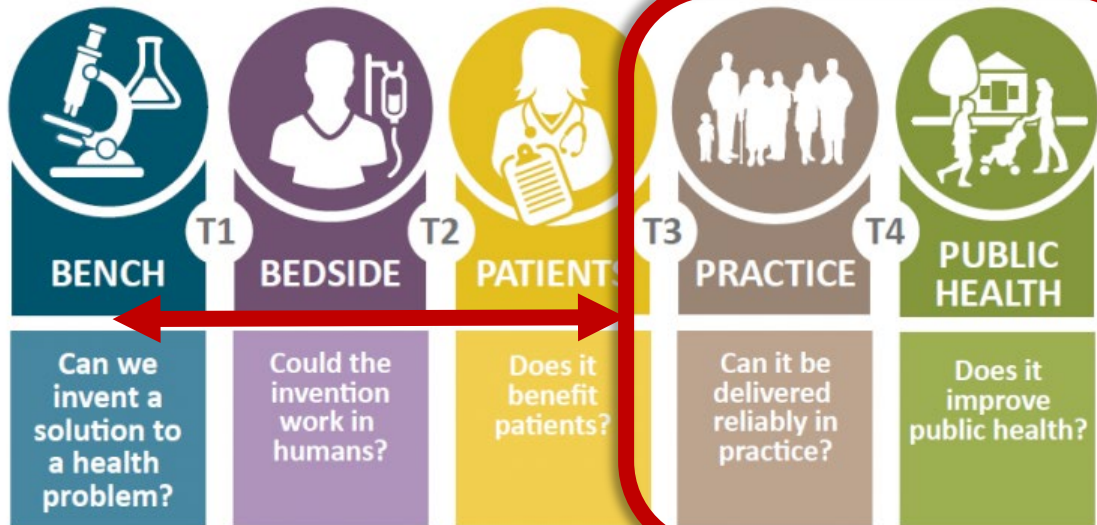
AND NOBODY CAN USE IT.....

DOES IT STILL MAKE AN IMPACT?

# Implementation Science: A Cross-Cutting Translational Science

“Study of methods to promote the adoption and integration of evidence-based practices, interventions, and policies into routine health care and public health settings to improve our impact on population health.”

-National Cancer Institute




# Efficacy, effectiveness and implementation research questions

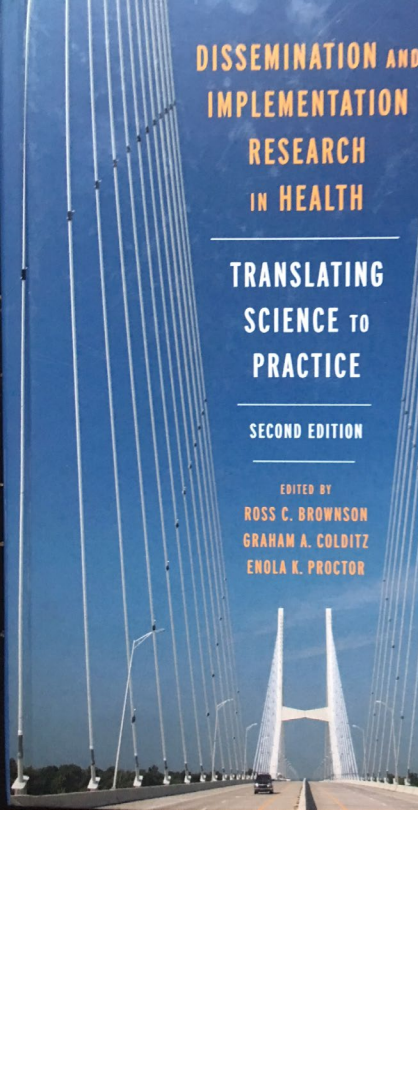
- Does this intervention work under optimal conditions?
- Does this intervention work under real world conditions?
- When, where, how, with whom, under what circumstances, and why does this intervention work?



(Gaglio & Glasgow, 2018; Nilsen & Bernhardsson, 2019; Rabin & Brownson, 2018; Stange, Breslau, Dietrich, & Glasgow, 2012).

# Important considerations for IS

- **Context** 
- Multilevel complexity
- Adaptability
- Representativeness and reach
- Equity
- Relevance
- Generalizability
- Scalability and sustainability



DISSEMINATION AND  
IMPLEMENTATION  
RESEARCH  
IN HEALTH

TRANSLATING  
SCIENCE TO  
PRACTICE

SECOND EDITION

EDITED BY  
ROSS C. BROWNSON  
GRAHAM A. COLDITZ  
ENOLA K. PROCTOR

2

## Terminology for Dissemination and Implementation Research

BORSIKA A. RABIN AND ROSS C. BROWNSON

### INTRODUCTION

Dissemination and implementation research is increasingly recognized as an important function of academia and is a growth area for major health-related funding agencies (e.g., the National Institute of Health, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [CDC], the National Institute on Disability Rehabilitation Research [NIDRR], the Centers for Health Research [CIHR], and the World Health Organization [WHO]). A challenging aspect of D&I research is the lack of standardized terminology.<sup>8-12</sup> As noted by others and colleagues: “closing the gap from knowledge generation to use in decision-making for practice and policy is conceptually and theoretically challenging because of diverse terms and inconsistent definitions of terms.”<sup>14</sup> A survey conducted by *Medical Care* on how their readers define “translational research” found substantial variation in interpretation by respondents. Definitions were consistent with the NIH definition (“the process of applying ideas, insights, and discoveries generated through basic science inquiry to the treatment or prevention of disease”), others believed that only research that leads to direct clinical application should be defined as translational research, and only research that emphasized the bidirectional nature of the process (i.e., bench to bedside and back to bench) phenomenon can be partly explained by the relatively new appearance of D&I research.

### RESEARCH ARTICLE

Open Access

## A cross-sectional study of the number and frequency of terms used to refer to knowledge translation in a body of health literature in 2006: a Tower of Babel?

K Ann McKibbin<sup>1\*</sup>, Cynthia Lokker<sup>1</sup>, Nancy L Wilczynski<sup>1</sup>, Donna Ciliska<sup>2,3</sup>, Maureen Dobbins<sup>2,3</sup>, David A Davis<sup>4</sup>, R Brian Haynes<sup>1</sup>, Sharon E Straus<sup>5,6</sup>

**Background:** The study of implementing research findings into practice is rapidly growing and has acquired many competing names (e.g., dissemination, uptake, utilization, translation) and contributing disciplines. The use of multiple terms across disciplines pose barriers to communication and progress for applying research findings. We sought to establish an inventory of terms describing this field and how often authors use them in a collection of health literature published in 2006.

**Methods:** We refer to this field as knowledge translation (KT). Terms describing aspects of KT and their definitions were collected from literature, the internet, reports, textbooks, and contact with experts. We compiled a database of KT and other articles by reading 12 healthcare journals representing multiple disciplines. All articles published in these journals in 2006 were categorized as being KT or not. The KT articles (all KT) were further categorized, if possible, for whether they described KT projects or implementations (KT application articles), or presented the theoretical basis, models, tools, methods, or techniques of KT (KT theory articles). Accuracy was checked using duplicate reading. Custom designed software determined how often KT terms were used in the titles and abstracts of articles categorized as being KT.

**Results:** A total of 2,603 articles were assessed, and 581 were identified as KT articles. Of these, 201 described KT applications, and 153 included KT theory. Of the 100 KT terms collected, 46 were used by the authors in the titles or abstracts of articles categorized as being KT. For all 581 KT articles, eight terms or term variations used by authors were highly discriminating for separating KT and non-KT articles ( $p < 0.001$ ): implementation, adoption, quality improvement, dissemination, complex intervention (with multiple endings), implementation (within three words of) research, and complex intervention. More KT terms were associated with KT application articles ( $n = 13$ ) and KT theory articles ( $n = 18$ ).

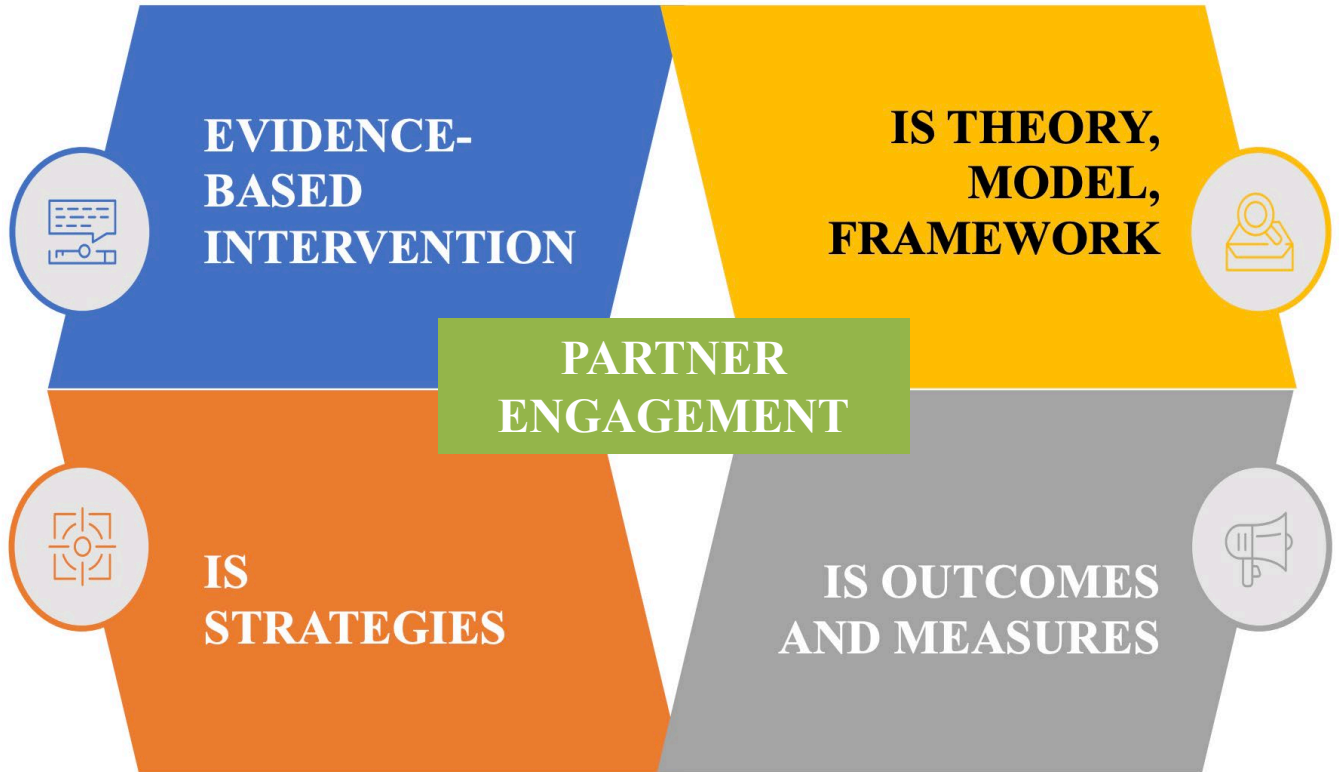
**Conclusions:** We collected 100 terms describing KT research. Authors used 46 of them in titles and abstracts of KT articles. Of these, approximately half discriminated between KT and non-KT articles. Thus, the need for consolidation and consistent use of fewer terms related to KT research is evident.

# What does implementation science do?

- **Dissemination Research** – The scientific study of targeted distribution of information and intervention materials to a specific public health or clinical practice audience. The intent is to understand how to best spread and sustain knowledge and the associated evidence-based interventions
- **Implementation Research** – The scientific study of the use of strategies to adopt and integrate evidence-based health interventions into clinical and community settings to improve patient outcomes and benefit population health



NIH PAR-18-007



**How do we define solutions in  
Implementation Science?**



**EVIDENCE-  
BASED  
INTERVENTION**

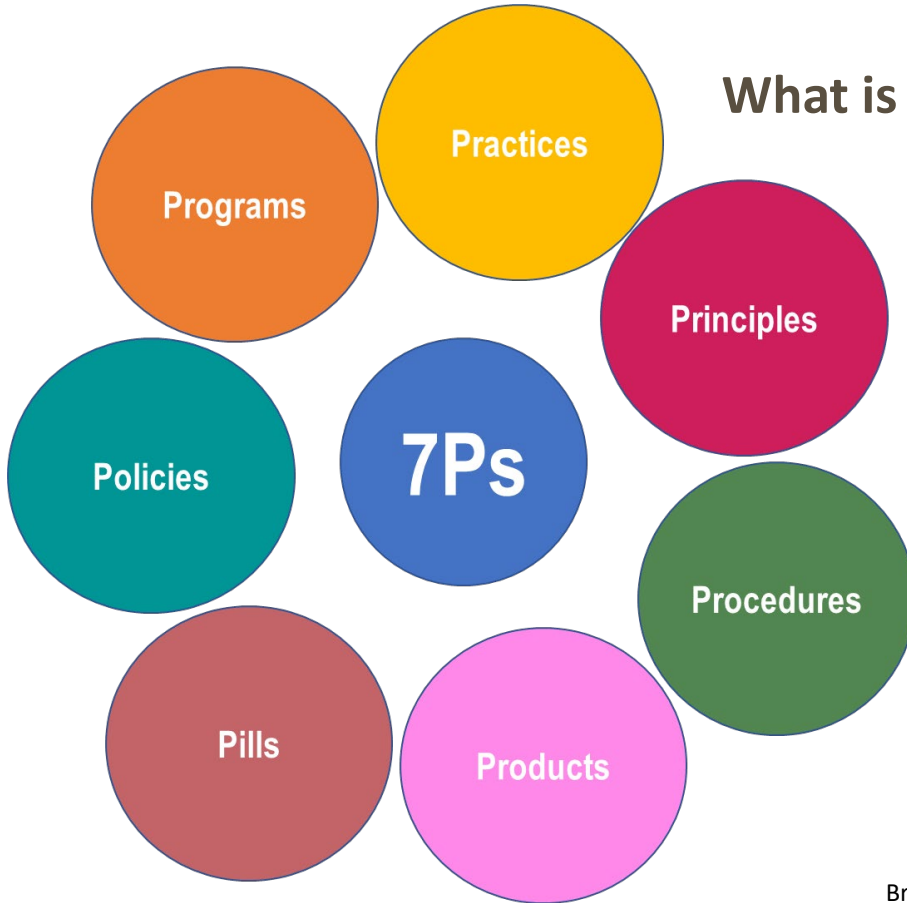
**IS THEORY,  
MODEL,  
FRAMEWORK**

**PARTNER  
ENGAGEMENT**

**IS  
STRATEGIES**

**IS OUTCOMES  
AND MEASURES**

# What is an intervention?

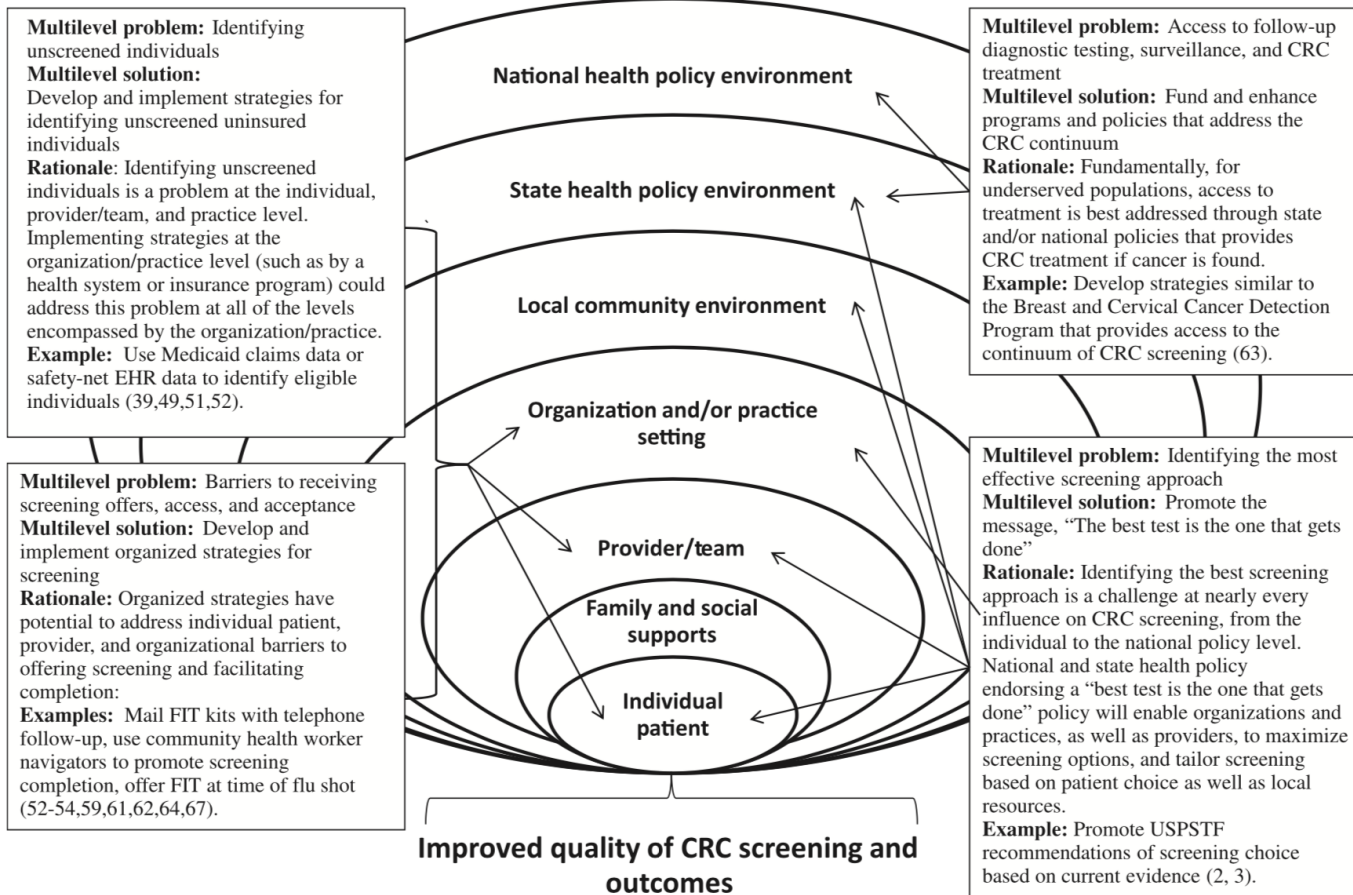


Brown, Curran, Palinkas, Aarons et al. (2017).

# What makes an intervention complex?

- Number of interacting components within the experimental and control interventions
- Number and difficulty of actions required by those delivering or receiving the intervention
- Number of groups or organizational levels
- Number and variability of outcomes
- Degree of flexibility or tailoring of the intervention permitted

# Evidence-practice gap: Colorectal cancer screening



## Evidence-based...on what?

External validity, pragmatic criteria (often ignored)

- Participant **Representativeness**
- **Setting** Representativeness
- **Context** and Setting
- Community/Setting Engagement
- **Adaptation/** Change
- Sustainability
- **Costs/Feasibility** of Treatment
- Comparison Conditions



**Bryan J Weiner**  
@bjweiner



I'm often asked: how much evidence does an intervention need to be ready for implementation? Short answer: Enough to get past study section. Long answer: [#impsci](#) is evidence-agnostic. Equally applicable to innovations, best practices, and good ideas. Bad ones too, unfortunately.

9:14 AM · Jul 13, 2020 · [TweetDeck](#)

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# Implementation Science Research at NIOSH

# Pipeline issues in Occupational Safety and Health (OSH)

- Effective OSH research programs are not broadly adopted & implemented; Research “sits on the shelf.”
  - E.g., only 17% of U.S. fishing safety research has been adopted in workplaces to benefit workers (Lucas et al., 2014)
- Numerous challenges; gaps persist
- These gaps have serious implications for the safety and health of the global workforce





# “Translation research” at NIOSH

CDC Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
CDC 24/7: Saving Lives. Protecting People™

Search NIOSH [Advanced Search](#)

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)

Workplace Safety and Health Topics

Workplace Safety and Health Topics

Translation Research

NIOSH Translation Research Program

Publications and Resources

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Promoting productive workplaces through safety and health research

## Translation Research



**Overview**

Translation research explores how scientific work moves into practice and benefits to research has not received much attention in occupational safety and health, it can be everywhere. Today's workplaces need research findings and products that can improve. Through translation research, NIOSH studies the process, drivers, and barriers for translation applications that create these improvements for the safety and health of workers.

CDC Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
CDC 24/7: Saving Lives. Protecting People™

Search NIOSH [Advanced Search](#)

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)

NIOSH Evaluation Capacity Building Plan

NIOSH Evaluation Capacity Building Plan

## Evaluation Capacity-Building Plan 2021-2025

**Executive Summary**

Background

Topic Area 1: Collection and documentation of intermediate outcomes

Topic Area 2: Implementation of program review recommendations

Topic Area 3: Long-term strategy for external program review

Topic Area 4: Translation Research

References

Promoting productive workplaces through safety and health research

**Executive Summary**

Over the past 15 years, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) has taken steps to integrate program evaluation into its culture. Namely, it has developed, implemented, and continually refined the process by which it evaluates the relevance and impact of its research programs. Having completed 13 of these reviews, Institute evaluators identified topic areas that NIOSH must continue to cultivate to ensure the relevance and impact of its research in the future.

This NIOSH Evaluation Capacity-Building Plan outlines specific needs within those areas and how NIOSH will address them over the five-year period of FY2021-FY2025.

This document was designed as a learning agenda, as required of federal departments by the Foundations of Evidence-Based Policy Making Act. Therefore, the Plan includes a learning sheet for each topic area, including key learning questions and activities, as well as steps for addressing each key question. Table 1 outlines the key learning questions and activities for all topic areas. Because NIOSH will transition to a learning agenda after completing these steps, formatting the Capacity-Building Plan in this way will create a clear path toward the next significant evaluation step.

Due to NIOSH's involvement in the on-going global COVID-19 response and the information learned through focus groups and interviews during FY21 activities, the Institute amended its original ECB Plan before beginning its FY22 implementation.

# A rose by any other name



VA Quality Enhancement Research Initiative  
EVIDENCE INTO PRACTICE



**SAMHSA**  
Substance Abuse and Mental Health  
Services Administration



**AHRQ**  
Agency for Healthcare  
Research and Quality

NIH National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences  
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Research

## Implementation Science in Environmental Health

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## Toward More Precision in Implementation Science in the Age of COVID-19

June 26, 2020 by Mindy Cline, David A Chambers, Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences, National Cancer Institute, Rockville, Maryland and Muijn J. Khoury, Office of Genomics and Precision Public Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, Georgia

[Implementation science](#) (IS) is “the study of methods to promote the adoption and integration of evidence-based practices, interventions, and policies into routine health care and public health settings to improve the impact on population health.” The various factors that must be taken into consideration in designing, conducting, and evaluating IS studies dictate an inherent “precision” to ensure the success of evidence-based practice implementation within studied populations. These include but are not limited to

- consideration of the different stakeholders involved;
- the context in which an intervention takes place;
- identification of appropriate implementation strategies;
- the multi-level, multi-sectoral, and dynamic nature of implementation; and
- the need to consider scale-up and sustainability.

Implementation Science

the [NIEHS Strategic plan](#) (Promoting Translation – Edge to Action) supports research to develop, test, evidence-based prevention and intervention reduce or avoid exposures and their resulting The NIEHS supports the use of implementation s. To improve environmental public health through the take, sustainment and spread of evidence-based practices, and policies that prevent or mitigate iures and support environmental health equity.

## Implementation Science?

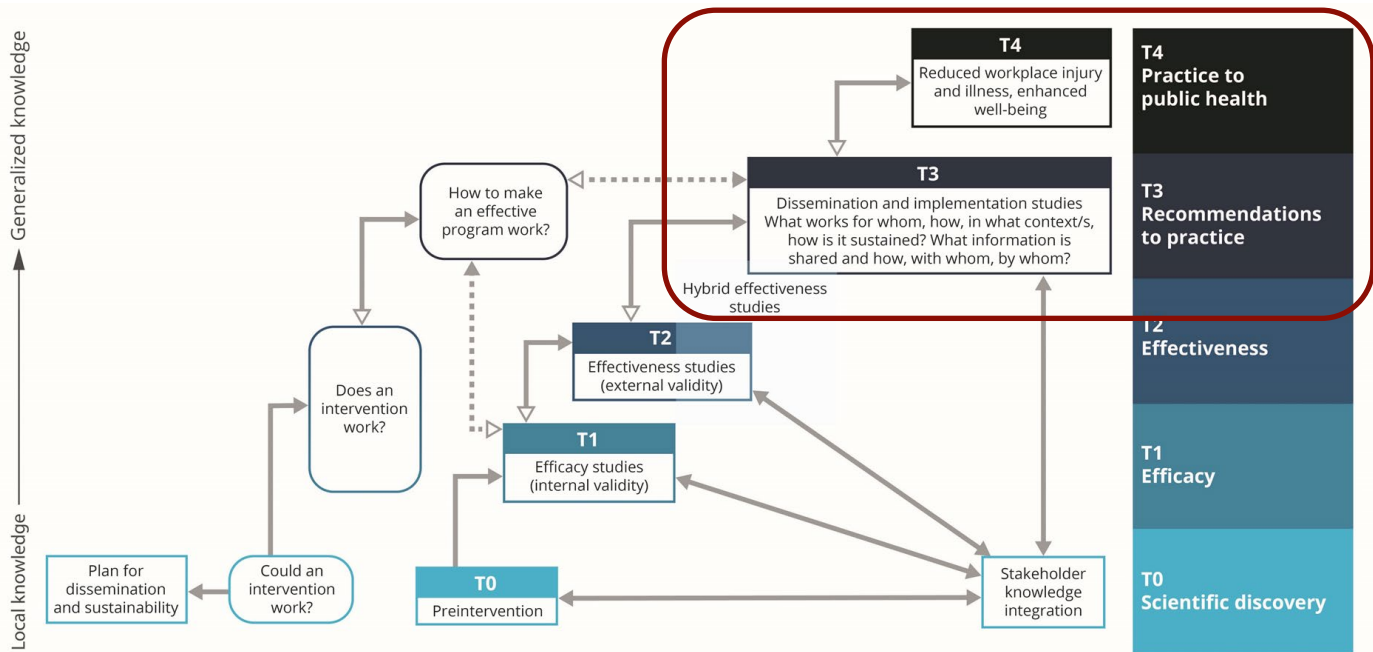
Implementation science is the study of methods to promote the

## IR is related to evaluation, but not the same

**Program evaluation:** the systematic collection of information on the activities, characteristics, and results of programs in a specific setting to inform local knowledge and practice (CDC, Introduction to Program Evaluation for Public Health Programs)



# The research continuum in OSH (Guerin et al., 2022)



Sources: Adapted from: AHRQ, 2014; Brown et al., 2017; Khoury, Gwinn & Ioannidis, 2010; PAR-19-274 Dissemination and Implementation Research in Health; Westfall, Mold & Fagan, 2007.

Guerin RJ, Glasgow RE, Tyler A, Rabin BA, Huebschmann AG. Methods to improve the translation of evidence-based interventions: a primer on dissemination and implementation science for occupational safety and health researchers and practitioners. *Saf Sci.* (2022) 152:105763. doi: 10.1016/j.ssci.2022.105763



What OSH solution are you interested in implementing?

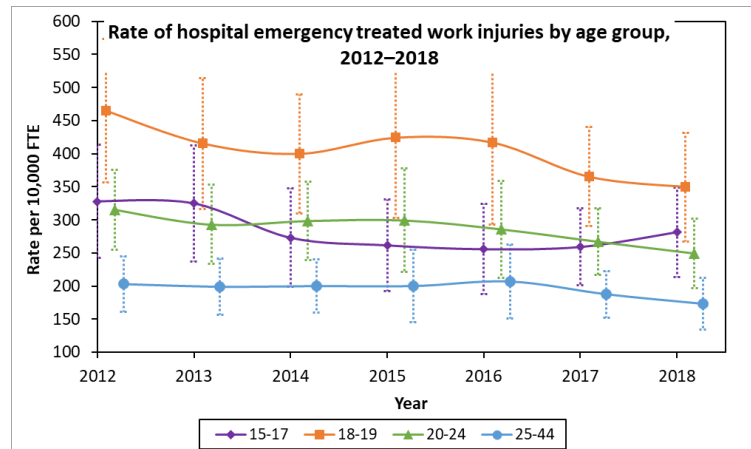
*Respond in the chat*



# Young worker safety and health: An OSH case example (implementation gap and the solution)

# The problem: Young worker injuries

- From 2012-2018, ~3.2 million nonfatal, job-related injuries to young workers (15–24 years) treated in hospital emergency departments
- Compared to adult workers, young workers experience rates of job-related injury up to ~2x higher
- Distal impacts on health and well-being; “cumulative burden of morbidity” (Koehoorn, Breslin, & Xu, 2008)



Guerin RJ, Reichard AA, Derk S, Hendricks KJ, Menger-Ogle LM, Okun AH. Nonfatal Occupational Injuries to Younger Workers - United States, 2012-2018. *MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep.* 2020;69(35):1204-1209. Published 2020 Sep 4. doi:10.15585/mmwr.mm6935a3

# Implementation gap

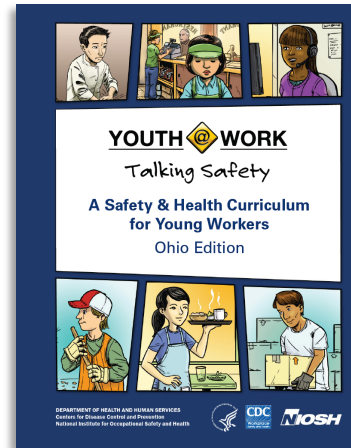
- A lack of (quality) safety training contributes to work-related injury among teens
- OSH not taught in schools, an effective locus for delivery of “life skills”
- Evidence-based OSH training needs to be tailored for younger learners; adapted for large-scale delivery in K-12 schools; systematically implemented and evaluated
- Why? Evidence of protective effects of OSH training against young worker injury (Boini & Grzebyk 2017)





# Solution: OSHA 10-hour training + NIOSH *Talking Safety*

- Is the industry standard work safety training; used in career and technical education (CTE)
- Teaches general OSH knowledge (e.g., ladder and chemical safety, regulations)
- Can be delivered only by trained, authorized instructors
- Evidence of effectiveness, but not of implementation
- Based on collaboration with many NIOSH partners
- Is a free, interactive, middle & high school curriculum; 6, 45-minute lessons;
- Teaches *Core OSH Competencies* Customized for each state
- Evidence of effectiveness, and implementation (Guerin et al., 2018; 2019)



**How do we define solutions in  
implementation science?**



**EVIDENCE-  
BASED  
INTERVENTION**



**IS THEORY,  
MODEL,  
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**PARTNER  
ENGAGEMENT**

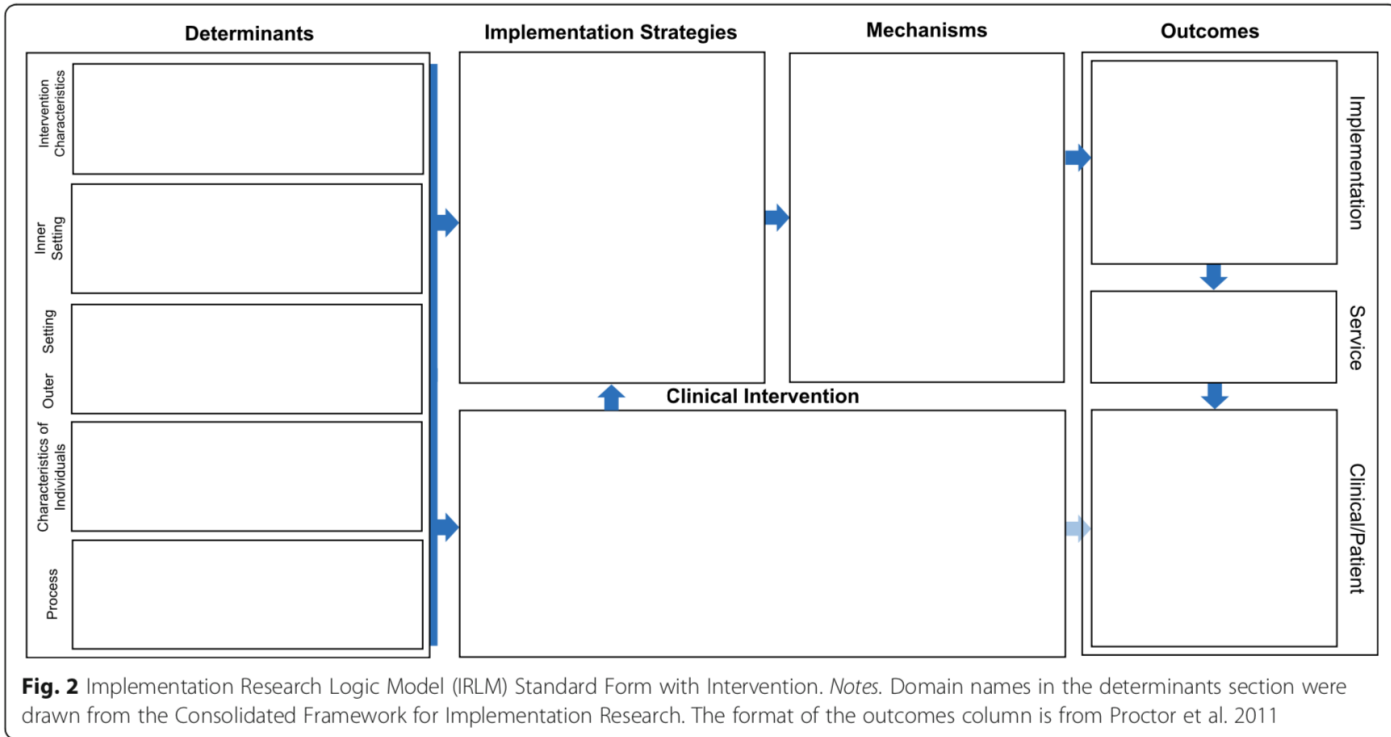


**IS  
STRATEGIES**



**IS OUTCOMES  
AND MEASURES**

# Logic Model for IS Research



# TRANS(ending) the HIV Epidemic – Drs. Laramie Smith and Jill Blumenthal

EHE Implementation Science Planning Grant (FY19-20)

GOAL: Identify determinants and validate optimal implementation strategies

## DETERMINANTS (PRISM) ††

### Perceptions of the EHE services

**FQHC:** 20+ year history of improving services for the “T”; strong org. culture and capacity (TNC, peer navigation in clinic, robust HIV services)

**Patient:** Spanish services and seeing someone like you who gets it is needed to build trust in services

### Characteristics affecting EHE service delivery

**FQHC:** Patient insurance coverage, outreach and buy in (trust) by community members

**Patient:** Safety and cultural competency of care (language, stigma [dead named, misgendered]); Unmet mental health and resource needs

### Factors external to FQHC affecting intervention

- Transphobia (employment, housing)
- Sex work (income), substance use (coping)
- Community reputation of services/providers
- Costs (time, emotional labor, transportation)

### FQHC's infrastructure that affect or are affected by the implementation of the intervention

- Special pops division uses non-traditional methods to care for vulnerable
- Existing mobilized care delivery models

## IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY (Blended)

**Implement a New Care Delivery Model:**  
Bundled evidence-based practices to mobilize the delivery of EHE interventions

### Peer-led Mobilized Medical (PMM)

**A. Mobilized Peer Navigation**  
Conduct outreach, establish rapport, and link patients to care and services

**B. Mobilized Medical Care**  
Provide safe, accessible, integrated (primary, gender-affirming, HIV) care

**C. Engaging Social Networks†**  
Expand the teams reach to underserved transgender folk at 'high risk'

### Facilitate EHE Service Access and Engagement:

**Diagnose**  
(increase HIV testing)

**Treat**  
(increase ART use)

**Prevent**  
(increase PrEP use)

**Respond**  
(get EHE services into high risk networks)

EHE Implementation Evaluation Grant (FY20-22)

GOAL: Study the process and impact of the implementation strategy

## MECHANISMS (Complex)

### AIM 1

Validate the processes through which we hypothesize PMM works (QUAN+QUAL)

**Peer-led Mobilized Medical (PMM)**  
**Improve perceptions of EHE services**  
Reduce medical mistrust and anticipated stigma in clinical care

**Minimize Environmental Barriers**  
Reduce structural barriers and increase access to EHE services

**Bolster service delivery characteristics**  
Increase accountability for providing safe and culturally competent care

## OUTCOMES (RE-AIM)

### AIM 2

Evaluate the implementation & clinical outcomes of PMM

### Implementation

**Reach:** Total No. TG patients w/ unmet EHE need (test, ART, PrEP) identified/month

**Adoption:** Compare FQHC system characteristics to other SoCal FQHCs (generalizability)

**Implementation:** PMM appropriateness, acceptability, & feasibility; Total No. TG patients that used PMM components (overall, by language); replication costs

**Maintenance:** FQHC leaders' intentions to sustain PMM

### CLINICAL

- Effectiveness:** % who used EHE services (of total reached)
- % HIV tested\*
  - % ART/PrEP protected\*
  - % Retained in care\*\*

†† Colored boxes (green, yellow, orange, red) represent elements that are tied to the corresponding, color-coded, PRISM determinants.

† Social networks (white box) is a new method that will be applied to FQHC community outreach and case identification protocols; and does not leverage existing FQHC infrastructure. In comparison, both peer navigation and mobilized medicine (red boxes) leverage existing FQHC infrastructure that will be retrofitted to serve a new patient population.

\*per CDC guidelines

\*\* % attended follow-up care visit

# IS theories, models, & frameworks (TMFs)

- Terms are used interchangeably
- Describe tools to plan, evaluate, or understand barriers and facilitators (determinants) to IS processes
- Provide tools to plan, organize and understand IS phenomena and why/how IS strategies succeed or fail
- Have many common elements (multiphase, multilevel, stakeholder engagement, health equity, etc.)

# D&I theories, models, & frameworks (TMFs)

## Theories:

- Are generally specific and predictive
- Have directional relationships between concepts
- Are suitable for hypothesis testing

## Models:

- Are specific, more often prescriptive or strategic
- Provide a systematic way to develop, manage, and evaluate interventions

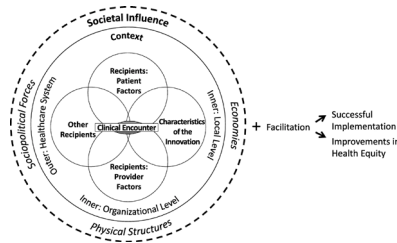
## Frameworks:

- Organize, explain, or describe phenomena and relationships between concepts
- Delineate processes

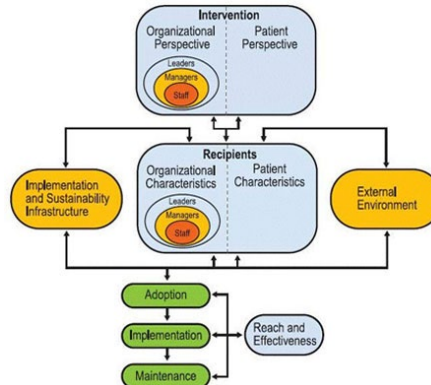


Tabak, R. G., Khoong, E. C., Chambers, D. A., & Brownson, R. C. (2012)

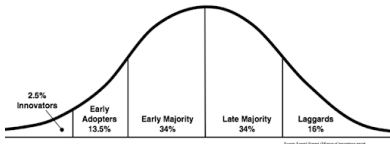
# Wealth of existing IS TMFs



**Healthy Equity Implementation Framework**

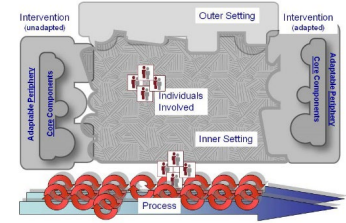


**Practical, Robust Implementation and Sustainability Model (PRISM)**

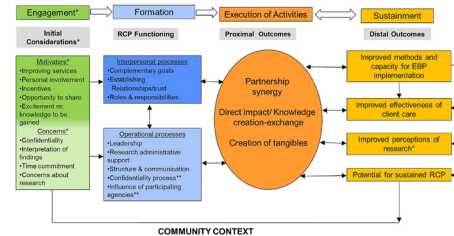


**Diffusion of Innovations**

- 61 models with research focus (Tabak et al., 2012)
- 100 + used in an international sample (Birken et al. 2017)
- 159 KT/IS theories, models, or frameworks (Striffler et al. 2018)



**Consolidated Framework for Implementation Research (CFIR)**



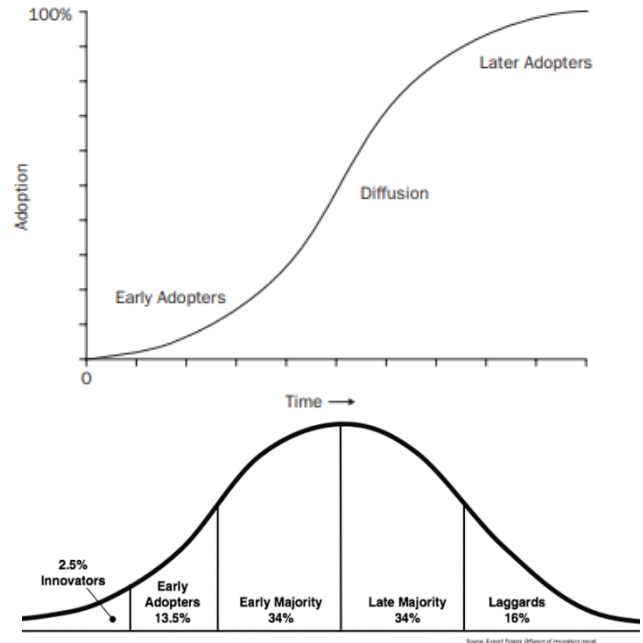
**Community-Academic Partnership Model**



# TMF examples: Diffusion of Innovations

*Diffusion*: process through which an innovation is communicated through channels over time among members of a social system (Rogers, 2003).

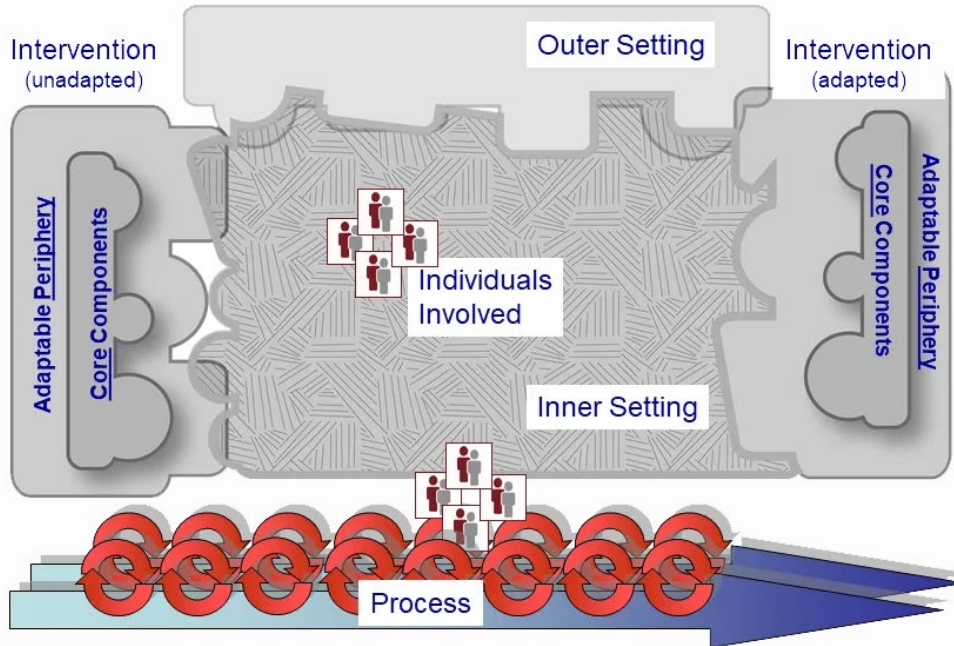
- Innovation
- Adopter
- Social system
- Individual adoption process
- Diffusion system



Rogers, 2003, 5<sup>th</sup> ed.  
Dearing, Kee & Peng, 2018

# TMF examples: CFIR

## Consolidated Framework for Implementation Research

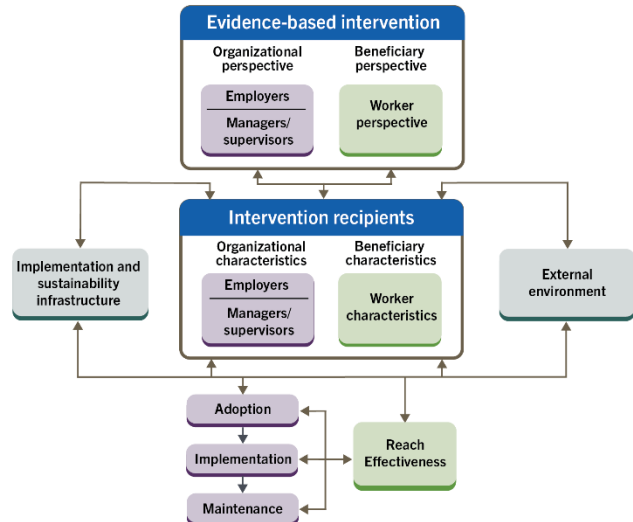


# TMF examples: RE-AIM & PRISM

- **RE-AIM: Reach, Effectiveness, Adoption, Implementation, and Maintenance framework** Glasgow, Vogt, & Boles, 1999; Glasgow et al., 2019

- **PRISM: Practical, Robust, Implementation and Sustainability Model** Feldstein & Glasgow, 2008; Glasgow et al., 2019

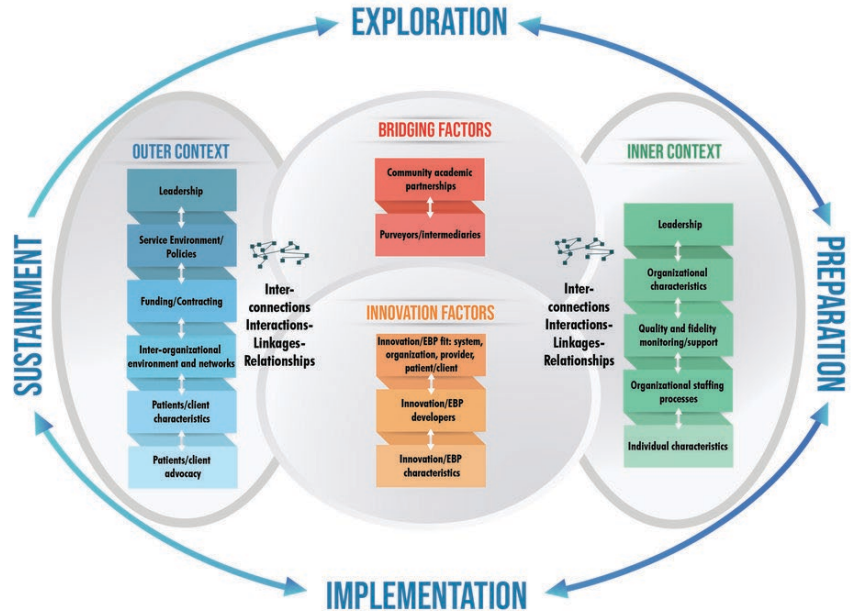
The Practical, Robust, Implementation and Sustainability Model (PRISM) for Occupational Safety and Health



Guerin et al., 2022. Adapted from:  
Feldstein & Glasgow, 2008

# TMF examples: EPIS Framework

Exploration,  
Preparation  
Implementation  
Sustainment



Aarons, Hurlburt, & Horwitz, 2011;  
Moullin et al., 2019  
<https://episframework.com/>

# Dissemination & Implementation Models

*in Health Research & Practice*

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## Helping Navigate Dissemination and Implementation Models

The D&I Models Webtool is an interactive, online resource designed to help researchers and practitioners navigate D&I Models through planning, selecting, combining, adapting, using, and linking to measures.

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	Sort	Sort	Sort	Sort	Sort	Sort	Sort
	Model	D &/or I	Construct Flexibility	Socio-Ecological Levels	Field of Origin	# Times Cited	Rating
<input type="checkbox"/>	"4E" Framework for Knowledge Dissemination and Utilization <a href="#">Description</a>	D-I	3	Individual Organization Community	Aging and mental health	14	3.5
<input type="checkbox"/>	ACE Star Model of Knowledge Transformation <a href="#">Description</a>	D>I	4	Individual Organization System	Nursing	44	n/r
<input type="checkbox"/>	Active Implementation Framework <a href="#">Description</a>	I-Only	3	Individual Organization Community	Education	1870	n/r
<input type="checkbox"/>	Adaptation in dissemination and implementation science <a href="#">Description</a>	I-Only	4	Individual Organization Community System	Health Disparities	39	4.75
<input type="checkbox"/>	Adherence Optimization Framework <a href="#">Description</a>	I-Only	4	Individual Organization Community	Sports Injury Prevention	14	n/r

<https://dissemination-implementation.org/index.aspx>

Helping and Informing

The D&I Model is a resource designed to help practitioners select, combine, adapt, use, and measure.

Access the

Section

Plan

# Consider these questions for selecting TMFs

1. What is the purpose of the TMF?
2. What level(s) does the TMF address?
3. What dissemination and implementation concepts are included?
4. How generalizable or specific is the TMF's orientation (e.g., context, intervention)?
5. Are measures available?
6. What is the timeframe?



DEBATE

Open Access

# Ten recommendations for using implementation frameworks in research and practice



Joanna C. Moullin<sup>1,2\*</sup>, Kelsey S. Dickson<sup>2,3</sup>, Nicole A. Stadnick<sup>2,4,5</sup>, Bianca Albers<sup>6,7</sup>, Per Nilsen<sup>8</sup>, Sarabeth Broder-Fingert<sup>9</sup>, Barbara Mukasa<sup>10</sup> and Gregory A. Aarons<sup>2,4,5</sup>

- (1) Select Appropriate Implementation Framework(s)
- (2) Establish and maintain community stakeholder engagement and partnerships
- (3) Define issue and develop research questions and hypotheses
- (4) Develop an implementation mechanistic process model or logic model
- (5) Select research and evaluation methods
- (6) Identify implementation determinants (barriers/facilitators)
- (7) Select and tailor, or develop, implementation strategy(s)
- (8) Specify implementation outcomes and evaluate implementation
- (9) Use a framework(s) at micro level to conduct and tailor implementation
- (10) Write the proposal and report





What IS TMF(s) have you used or are using currently?

What is your most burning question about using IS TMFs?

*Respond in the chat*

**How do we identify key barriers and facilitators to the implementation of your solution in your context?**

**What strategies can you use to address the barriers and amplify the facilitators?**

**EVIDENCE-  
BASED  
INTERVENTION**



**IS THEORY,  
MODEL,  
FRAMEWORK**

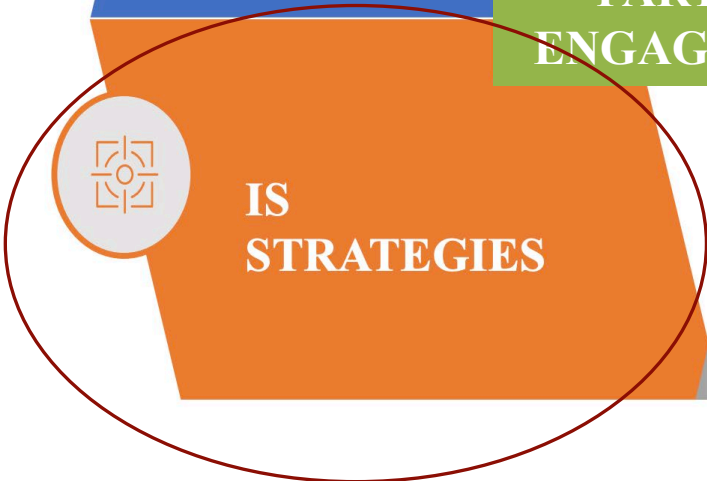


**PARTNER  
ENGAGEMENT**

**IS  
STRATEGIES**



**IS OUTCOMES  
AND MEASURES**



# Identifying barriers and facilitators

Determinant	Implementation Strategy	Mechanism	Implementation Outcome
Provider knowledge deficit	Education (provision of information)	Awareness-building, knowledge-acquisition	Feasibility, acceptability, appropriateness, adoption
Provider skill deficit	Training (teaching & practice with corrective feedback)	Skill acquisition, refinement, mastery	Fidelity to EBP
Turnover	Train-the-trainer	Continuous on-site expertise available for consultation	Sustainability
Provider engagement	Clinical champion-led implementation team	Implementation climate	Feasibility, acceptability, appropriateness
Unstandardized clinical care options	Guidelines	Clarity of clinical care	Fidelity

# Implementation strategies

Author and Citation	Term	Definition
Powell et al. <sup>15</sup>	Implementation Strategy	A systematic intervention process to adopt and integrate evidence-based health innovations into usual care.
Curran et al. <sup>16</sup>	Implementation Intervention	A method or technique to enhance adoption of a “clinical” intervention. Examples include an electronic clinical reminder, audit/feedback, and interactive education.
	Implementation Strategy	A “bundle” of implementation interventions. Many implementation research trials test such bundles of implementation interventions.
<u>Mazza</u> et al. <sup>17</sup>	Implementation Strategy	A purposeful procedure to achieve clinical practice compliance with a guideline recommendation.
Proctor et al. <sup>19</sup>	Implementation Strategy	Methods or techniques used to enhance the adoption, implementation, and sustainability of clinical program or practice.

- The intervention/practice/innovation = **THE THING**
- *Implementation strategies* = the stuff we do to try to **help people/places DO THE THING**

Powell, B.J., Garcia, K.G., Fernandez, M.E. Implementation Strategies in *Optimizing the Cancer Control Continuum*, Eds. David Chambers, Cynthia Vinson, and Wynne Norton (2018)

Curran, 2020

# Implementation strategies



Identified Factor	Implementation Strategy
<b>YOUR DETERMINANT</b>	<b>YOUR STRATEGY</b>
Lack of knowledge	Interactive education sessions
Beliefs or attitudes	Peer influence or opinion leaders
Community-based services	Process redesign

\*Expert Recommendations for Implementing Change;  
NCI, 2018; Powell et al., 2012, 2015; Proctor et al., 2013



What are key barriers and facilitators in the implementation setting you are working in?

*Respond in the chat*

**Who are key implementation partners addressing the OSH issue?**

**Who are the key beneficiaries of the implementation of this solution to address the OSH issue?**





**EVIDENCE-  
BASED  
INTERVENTION**



**IS THEORY,  
MODEL,  
FRAMEWORK**



**PARTNER  
ENGAGEMENT**




**IS  
STRATEGIES**



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AND MEASURES**

# IAP2 Spectrum of Public Participation

IAP2's Spectrum of Public Participation was designed to assist with the selection of the level of participation that defines the public's role in any public participation process. The Spectrum is used internationally, and it is found in public participation plans around the world.

		INCREASING IMPACT ON THE DECISION 				
		<b>INFORM</b>	<b>CONSULT</b>	<b>INVOLVE</b>	<b>COLLABORATE</b>	<b>EMPOWER</b>
<b>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION GOAL</b>		To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problem, alternatives, opportunities and/or solutions.	To obtain public feedback on analysis, alternatives and/or decisions.	To work directly with the public throughout the process to ensure that public concerns and aspirations are consistently understood and considered.	To partner with the public in each aspect of the decision including the development of alternatives and the identification of the preferred solution.	To place final decision making in the hands of the public.
	<b>PROMISE TO THE PUBLIC</b>	We will keep you informed.	We will keep you informed, listen to and acknowledge concerns and aspirations, and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.	We will work with you to ensure that your concerns and aspirations are directly reflected in the alternatives developed and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.	We will look to you for advice and innovation in formulating solutions and incorporate your advice and recommendations into the decisions to the maximum extent possible.	We will implement what you decide.



# STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT NAVIGATOR

DICEmethods.org | Dissemination, Implementation, Communication, and Engagement

A guide for health researchers



Data Science to Patient Value (D2V)

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS

Home > Stakeholder Engagement Selection Tool

EDUCATION HUB

FIND ENGAGEMENT STRATEGIES

## Stakeholder Engagement Selection Tool

Welcome! The purpose of this tool is to help your team select the most appropriate engagement method or tool for your particular project.

**Before using the tool, consider the following:**

- 🕒 **Purpose:** What do you hope to achieve through stakeholder engagement?
- 💰 **Budget:** What budget do you expect to have for your engagement activities?
- 📅 **Number of interactions:** Over what period of time do you expect to engage your stakeholders?
- 🕒 **Time per interaction:** How much time do you expect from your stakeholders in any given interaction?
- 👤 **Staffing/expertise:** What types of staffing and expertise are available to you?

START!

[https:// dicemethods.com/tool](https://dicemethods.com/tool)



Who are some key implementation partners you were not initially thinking about?

*Respond in the chat*

**What counts as success for each of the partners?**

**What counts as success for each of the beneficiaries?**

**How can you measure if success has been achieved?**



**EVIDENCE-  
BASED  
INTERVENTION**



**IS THEORY,  
MODEL,  
FRAMEWORK**

**PARTNER  
ENGAGEMENT**

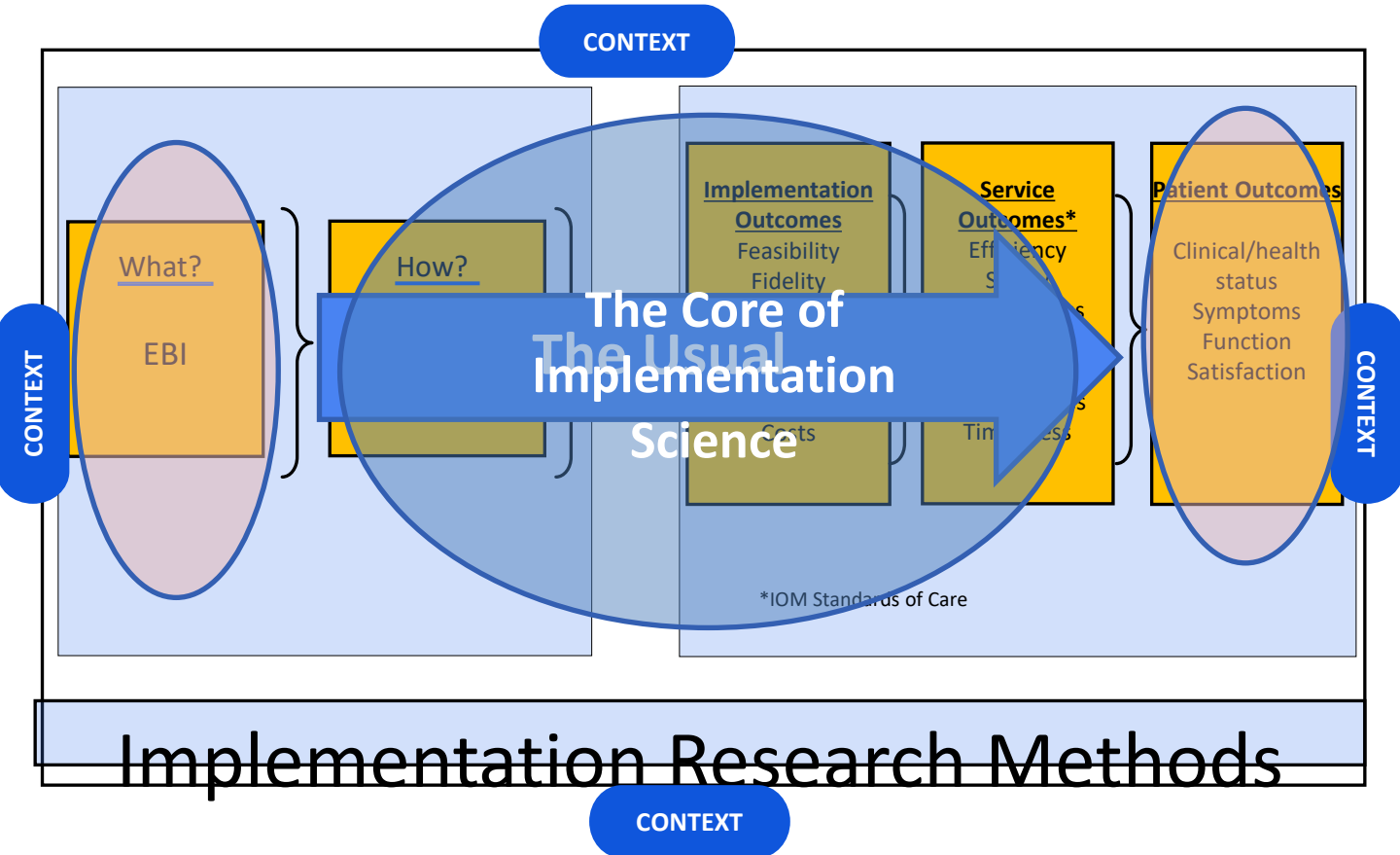


**IS  
STRATEGIES**



**IS OUTCOMES  
AND MEASURES**

# Implementation outcomes



# Proposed criteria for rating dissemination and implementation measures for scientific soundness and practicality

## GOLD STANDARD MEASURE RATING CRITERIA - For Primary Research Focus

**Reliable:** Especially test-retest (less emphasis on internal consistency)

**Valid:** Construct validity, criterion validity, performed well in multiple studies

**Broadly Applicable:** Available in English and Spanish, validated in different cultures and contexts; norms available; no large literacy issues

**Sensitive to Change\* (if applicable):** Longitudinal use, for performance tracking over time

**Public Health Relevance:** Related to Healthy People 2020 goals, key IOM objectives or national priorities

## PRACTICAL MEASURE RATING CRITERIA - For Real-World Application<sup>1</sup>

**Feasible\*:** Brief (generally 2 to 5 items or less); easy to administer/score/interpret

**Important to Practitioners and Stakeholders\*:** Relevant to health issues that are prevalent, costly, challenging; helpful for decision makers or practice

**Actionable\*:** Based on information, realistic actions can be taken, e.g., immediate discussion, referral to evidence-based on-line or community resources

**User Friendly:** Patient interpretability; face valid; meaningful to clinicians, public health officials, and policy makers

**Low Cost\*:** Publicly available or very low cost to use, administer, score, and interpret

**Enhances Patient Engagement:** Having this information is likely to further patient engagement

**Do No Harm:** Can likely be collected without interfering with relationships, putting respondents at risk, or creating unintended negative consequences



# Examples of key implementation & OSH effectiveness outcomes

(Guerin et al., 2022)

Examples of key implementation outcomes and OSH effectiveness outcomes

Implementation outcomes*	Organizational effectiveness outcomes	Individual (worker/employer) effectiveness outcomes
<b>Acceptability:</b> Perception among key partners/beneficiaries that the OSH program or practice is agreeable or satisfactory.	Safety culture/ climate Supervisory support Absenteeism	Well-being Physical health Mental health
<b>Adoption:</b> Intention among key partners/beneficiaries to employ an OSH intervention (i. e., “uptake”).	Presenteeism Turnover Occupational health equity	Changes in attitude, intention and behavior Occupational
<b>Appropriateness:</b> Perceived fit of the OSH innovation or intervention for a given context/ population/health and safety problem.	Occupational injuries, illnesses and fatalities	injuries, illnesses and fatalities Occupational health equity Fatigue Stress
<b>Costs:</b> Costs of an OSH implementation effort.		Depression Burnout Social connectedness
<b>Feasibility:</b> Extent to which the OSH intervention can be used successfully within a given setting.		Job performance Job satisfaction Job commitment Intent to leave Work-life balance Positive self-concept
<b>Fidelity:</b> Degree to which an OSH intervention is implemented as intended by the program developers.		
<b>Penetration:</b> Extent of integration of an OSH intervention within a worksite, workplace, or system.		
<b>Sustainability:</b> Extent to which a newly implemented program/ intervention is maintained or institutionalized within an organization/workplace.		

## IS measures (examples)

- Acceptability of Intervention Measure
- Intervention Appropriateness Measure
- Feasibility of Intervention Measure
  - Measures by Weiner and colleagues (2017), 12 items, four for each construct
- *Implementation leadership*
  - A 12-item measure of implementation leadership (with four subscales, 3-items each) by Aarons and colleagues (2014).

*The Society for Implementation Research  
Collaboration Instrument Review Project:  
<https://societyforimplementationresearchcollaboration.org/sirc-instrument-project>*



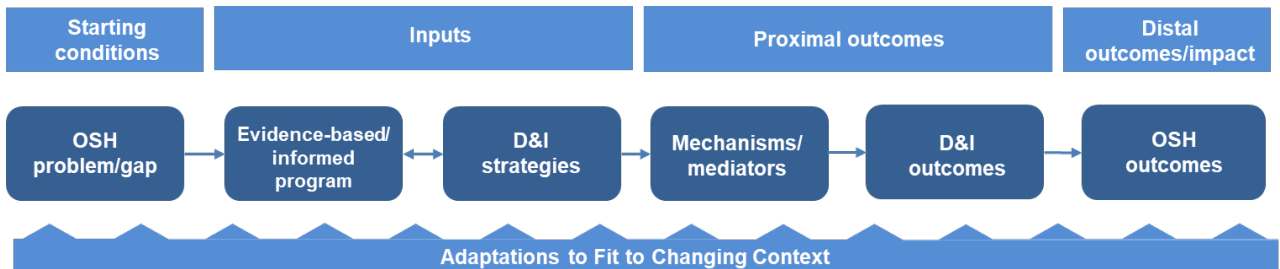
# Key principles of defining, measuring, and sharing success

- Defining success at multiple levels from the perspective of multiple partners, and across multiple phases
- Remember, evidence on what? (reach, equitable and sustained impact)
- Measuring and interpreting success using multiple methods and multiple perspectives
- Sharing findings on success using multiple methods, products, channels reaching multiple partners

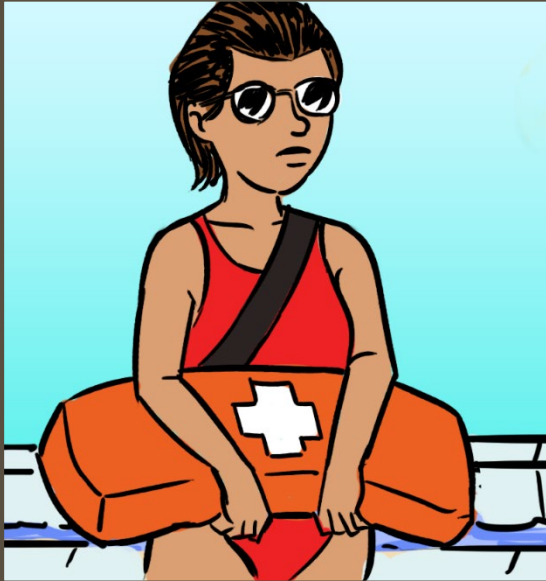


# Putting it all together

## Logic model of an IS study for OSH



Guerin RJ, Harden SM, Rabin BA, et al. Dissemination and Implementation Science Approaches for Occupational Safety and Health Research: Implications for Advancing Total Worker Health. *Int J Environ Res Public Health*. 2021;18(21):11050. Published 2021 Oct 21. doi:10.3390/ijerph182111050



## Young worker safety and health: An OSH case example (Partner engagement, outcomes, measuring success)

## Partner engagement

- Key partners: M-DCPS administrators, Board of Education, union leaders (American Federation of Teachers), OSHA
- Service providers: ~50 Miami Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) high school CTE teachers
- Intervention recipients: ~6,000 career tech students in health sciences pathway, grades 9-12



*M-DCPS Superintendent, Alberto Carvahlo (center), NIOSH PI Rebecca Guerin,<sup>4</sup> from right, and the Board of Education, 2016*

# Multilevel outcomes



Adapted from the Practical, Robust, Implementation and Sustainability Model (PRISM) (Feldstein & Glasgow, 2008).

# An implementation science lens helps our research:

- Consider more systemically what is important for implementation in the local context
- Identify strategies that support participating schools to implement with fidelity (and sustain) the program
- Identify measures that consider who's being reached and are we reaching those most in need?
- Prepare the program for future scale up/out
- Assess the impact of our program (and any unintended consequences)





Questions?





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For more information, contact CDC  
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TTY: 1-888-232-6348 [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)

The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

