
PXL


Insights

Why is implementation science needed?

Implementation science is trying to address the significant knowledge gap between interventions that research has shown to be effective and their delivery to communities and translation into practice, particularly in low- and middle-income countries. Implementation research is needed to account for the complexities of the systems in which interventions are implemented since other approaches often fail to address these. Results of implementation research will support evidence-based policymaking that can build robust programmes to improve public health. The following learning activity is an example how implementation science can help to improve educational interventions.

LEARNING ACTIVITY

Read the following artikel(s)	Moir, T. (2018). Why Is Implementation Science Important for Intervention Design and Evaluation Within Educational Settings? *Frontiers in Education*, *3*, 681–9. http://doi.org/10.3389/feduc.2018.00061


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Insights

Which factors can affect implementation?

Implementation success is determined by a variety of factors, including the characteristics of the intervention, the stakeholder groups involved and the context in which the intervention is carried out.

There are several characteristics of interventions that will have an impact on whether or not the intervention will be implemented. For example, this includes the costs relative to other similar interventions, its complexity and adaptability. Interventions have usually already proven to be effective and implementation research therefore can build on a solid understanding of what can work (efficacy) and what does work (effectiveness).

The involvement of different stakeholder groups is important for a number of reasons. Firstly, implementation relies on health care workers, policymakers and patients who adopt, carry out or benefit from interventions. Secondly, researchers need to understand the knowledge gaps and find answers to the challenges facing these groups. Successful implementation research therefore incorporates participatory approaches and engages in continuous, bidirectional communication between researchers and stakeholders.

Implementation science studies commonly focus on the external validity of their findings, i.e. whether they can be generalised across different settings and individuals. This can be achieved by examining context and the various factors that impact the effectiveness of an intervention in a specific setting. Implementation research therefore requires a systems thinking approach. Context can account for a number of barriers and facilitators that determine the success of implementing a particular intervention. Implementation also commonly requires the study of behaviour change among individuals or organisations and therefore a deeper understanding of the social, economic, institutional or cultural factors that shape this behaviour.

To help you find you way in this complex webbings, we suggest a commonly used framework for the analysis of implementation factors. The following learning activity will help you to understand the possible factors.

LEARNING ACTIVITY	
Read the following artikel(s)	Damschroder, L. J., et al. (2009). Fostering implementation of health services research findings into practice: a consolidated framework for advancing implementation science. Implementation Science, 4(1), 50. http://doi.org/10.1186/1748-5908-4-50

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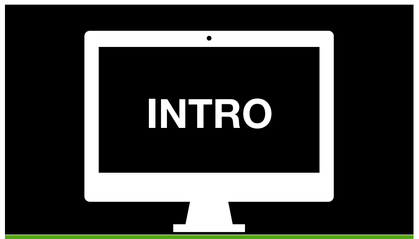
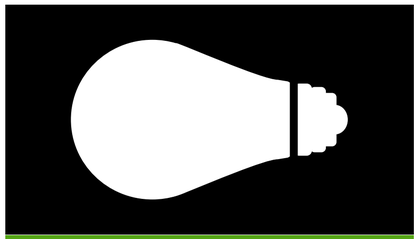
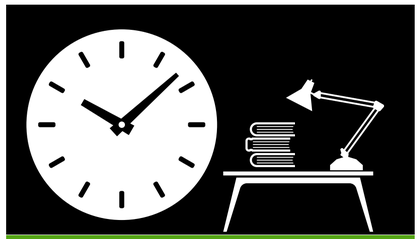


INTRODUCTION



INSIGHTS



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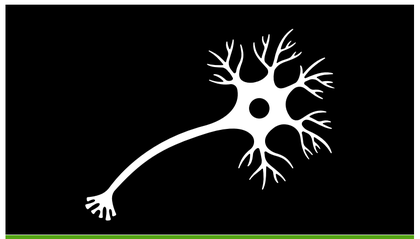

REFLECTION