IRLM Quick Reference Guide

Determinants

Factors that might prevent or enable improvements (barriers & facilitators). May act as moderators, effect modifiers, or mediators, indicating that they are links in a chain of causal mechanisms.

Intervention Characteristics
Intervention source; Evidence strength and quality; Relative advantage; Adaptability; Trialability; Complexity; Design quality and packaging; Cost

Inner Setting
Structural characteristics; Networks and communication; Culture; Implementation climate; Readiness for implementation

Outer Setting
Patient needs and resources; Cosmopolitanism; Peer pressure; External policies and incentives

Characteristics of Individuals
Knowledge/beliefs about intervention; Individual stage of change; Self-efficacy; Individual identification with the organization; Other attributes

Process
Engaging; Planning; Executing; Reflecting and Evaluating

Implementation Strategies

Interventions on the system to increase adoption of evidence-based innovations into usual care. A theory- or logic-driven connection should link an implementation strategy to (a) the barriers it will attempt to overcome and/or (b) the facilitators it will attempt to leverage.

Types

1. Plan; Educate; Finance; Restructure; Quality management; Policy context (Powell et al., 2012; Bunger et al., 2017)
2. Engage consumers; Evaluate; Change infrastructure; Stakeholder interrelationships; Financial strategies; Clinician support; Interactive assistance; Train and educate; Adapt (Powell et al., 2015; Waltz et al., 2015)

Strategies should be specified by the following characteristics:
Actor; Action; Action target; Temporality; Dose; Outcome affected; Justification for use (Proctor et al., 2013)

Mechanisms

Processes or events through which an implementation strategy operates to affect desired implementation outcomes (Lewis et al. 2018)

Mechanisms explain how an implementation strategy has an effect by describing the actions that lead from the administration of the strategy to the most proximal behavioral (individual, system) and/or implementation outcomes (i.e., mechanisms are the exact series of steps through which the change came about; Kazdin, 2007).

Some potential mechanisms:
1. Altering the status of a determinant.
2. Changing the behavior or attitude of an implementer (i.e., a proximal outcome that precedes an implementation outcome)

Note. Although mediation analysis can be informative, mediators identified statistically are not necessarily mechanistic.

Outcomes

Implementation

The effects of deliberate actions to implement an EBI.

Types

1. Reach; Adoption; Implementation; Maintenance (RE-AIM; Glasgow et al., 1999)
2. Acceptability; Adoption; Appropriateness; Cost; Feasibility, Penetration; Fidelity; Sustainability (Proctor et al., 2011)
3. Speed and Quantity (Chamberlain, Brown, & Saldana, 2011)

Service

Efficiency; Safety; Equity; Effectiveness; Patient-centeredness; Timeliness (IOM Standards of Care, 2006)

Clinical/Patient

Satisfaction
Functioning
Symptomatology
...many others

Smith, J.D., Li, D., & Rafferty, M.R. (2020)