Step 4 – WORKBOOK

Identifying Implementation Measures

Identifying measures of implementation and intervention effectiveness

In planning the implementation of an intervention it is important to measure key markers of the implementation process. There is a well understood set of measurement domains used in implementation science[[1]](#footnote-1). The following exercise helps you think though if and how you will apply these measures in implementing your specific intervention.

**WORKBOOK EXERCISE ONE – Defining implementation measures**

## Introduction

This exercise is designed to help you think through and plan the various measures of implementation science you will use in your intervention. By systematically considering these measures, you can enhance the effectiveness and sustainability of the intervention.

## Objective

By the end of this workbook, you will be able to:

1. Identify relevant implementation outcomes for intervention.
2. Develop a plan to measure and evaluate these outcomes.

## Instructions

1. Read through the introduction and objectives carefully.
2. Complete each exercise in the workbook in the order presented.
3. Take your time to reflect on each question and provide detailed responses.
4. If working in a team, discuss each section with your team members and come to a consensus on your answers.
5. Use the provided templates and tools to help organise your thoughts and plans.

# Exercise 1: Applying the implementation outcomes to your intervention

**Purpose:** To familiarise yourself with key concepts and measures

## Activity

1. In the table below are the key implementation science outcomes measures. Provide an example of how each concept may apply to your intervention.
2. Using a high, medium, or low priority ranking, evaluate each outcome based on its relevance and importance to your intervention. Consider factors such as:
	* The significance of the outcome for the interventions success
	* The feasibility of measurement
	* The resources available
	* Stakeholder interest and buy-in.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Definition** | **Example** | **Priority** |
| Acceptability | The perception among stakeholders the intervention is aggregable, palatable, or satisfactory |  |  |
| Adoption | The extent to which the intervention is tried by relevant stakeholders |  |  |
| Appropriateness | The perceived fit, relevance, and compatibility of the intervention for a stakeholder; and/or the perceived fit of the intervention to address the problem/issue |  |  |
| Coverage | The extent to which all eligible populations get access to the intervention |  |  |
| Cost | The cost impact of the intervention |  |  |
| Feasibility | The extent to which the intervention can be successfully used within the setting it is designed for. |  |  |
| Fidelity | The degree to which the intervention is implemented as it was prescribed by the program designers |  |  |
| Penetration | The extent to which the intervention is integrated within the service |  |  |
| Sustainability | The extent to which the intervention is maintained or institutionalised withing the service setting’s ongoing operation |  |  |

# Exercise 2: Developing a measurement plan

**Purpose:** To create a plan for measuring and evaluating the implementation outcomes

## Activity

1. **For each priortised outcome, identify potential measures:** Determine how you will measure each outcome. Consider both quantitative and qualitative measures. For example:
	1. Adoption: Number of staff referring to the service, adherence rates
	2. Sustainability: Data over time, leadership support
	3. Appropriateness: Staff and consumer satisfaction
	4. Acceptability: Staff surveys
2. **Identify data sources:** Determine where you will obtain the data for each measure. This might include:
	1. Electronic health records
	2. Surveys and questionnaires
	3. Interviews and focus groups
	4. Administrative data
3. **Identify the level of measurement:** Some measures are at an individual level, others will be at a service or organisation level
4. **Determine the frequency of measurement:** Decide how often you will measure each outcome. Consider baseline measurements, post-implementation assessment (within 3 months of implementing) and follow up evaluations (9-12 months after starting the intervention).
5. **Assign responsibility:** Assign specific individuals or teams to be responsible for data collection, analysis, and reporting for each outcome.
6. **Documentation:** Use the following table to populate this information

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Implementation outcome** | **Intend to measure (Yes/No)** | **Measurement method(s) (e.g. observations, surveys, routinely collected data)** | **Level of measurement (i.e. individual patient/staff, service provider, organisation wide)** | **Measurement time points** | **Responsible person/team** |
| Acceptability |  |  |  |  |  |
| Adoption |  |  |  |  |  |
| Appropriateness |  |  |  |  |  |
| Cost |  |  |  |  |  |
| Coverage |  |  |  |  |  |
| Feasibility |  |  |  |  |  |
| Fidelity |  |  |  |  |  |
| Penetration |  |  |  |  |  |
| Sustainability |  |  |  |  |  |

**WORKBOOK EXERCISE TWO – Defining intervention measures**

**Purpose:** To clarify the intervention measures for the intervention

## Activity

The intervention that you have selected (assuming it is evidence based) will already have a number of outcomes that it is designed to impact on. Given the focus is on equal outcomes what it important is to ensure the measures look at the proportionality of outcomes for the priority population(s).

This will include:

* 1. The relative proportions of the different priority populations getting access to the intervention.
	2. The relative proportions for the priority population(s) achieving the different outcomes intended from the intervention, as compared to the proportion of the non-priority populations achieving those outcomes.

In addition to the measures is a decision on how often this data will be collated and analysed.

Use the following table to document this information.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Access measure(s) | Priority population 1 | Priority population 2 | ….. | Cycle of reporting (e.g monthly, quarterly)  |
| Note here the relevant access measures for the intervention (eg. referral, engagement, follow up) |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Outcome measure | Priority population 1 | Priority population 2 | ….. | Cycle of reporting (e.g monthly, quarterly)  |
| Note here the relevant outcome measure(s) for the intervention |  |  |  |  |

1. Proctor, E., Silmere, H., Raghavan, R., Hovmand, P., Aarons, G., Bunger, A., ... & Hensley, M. (2011). Outcomes for implementation research: conceptual distinctions, measurement challenges, and research agenda. *Administration and policy in mental health and mental health services research*, *38*, 65-76. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)