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#### WEBINAR: Understanding Program Adaptation

#### #SISNFramework #InvestinIR





#### Understanding Program Adaptation: A Scoping Study of Frameworks and Systematic Review of Adapted Evidence-based Interventions



ROLLINS SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Cam Escoffery, PhD, MPH, CHES Rollins School of Public Health, Emory University



#### **Presentation Agenda**

- Definition and rationale for program adaptation
- Scoping study of adaptation frameworks
- Systematic review of evidence-based program adaptations globally
- Future research in advancing adaptation





# **Learning Objectives**

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

- Define program adaptation
- Describe frameworks and common steps in adaptation
- Understand different types of adaptation

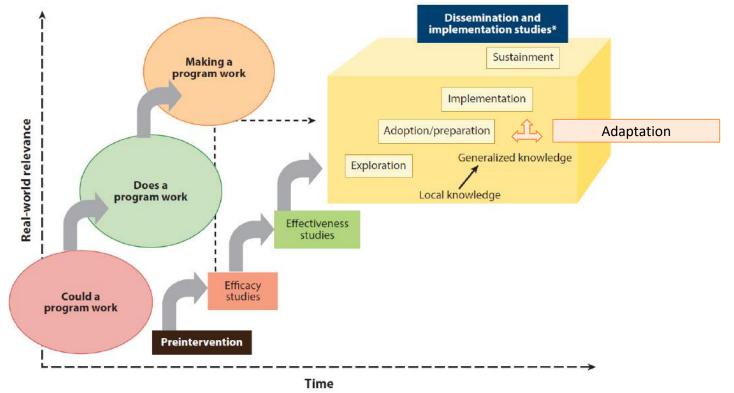


#### Figure 2. A Classification Scheme of Implementation Research



Toolkit	<b>Commitment, Support, Financing and Sustainability</b> cross-cutting governance functions that require diverse methods for stakeholder analysis, assessment of advocacy needs and opportunities, costing, capacity assessments, coordination, etc.		
Objects of Implementation	Initiation and Scoping	Planning & Design	Implementation, Iterative Improvement & Scaling Up
Nutrition-specific interventions	diverse forms of assessments, stakeholder	diverse forms of formative research and consultations	diverse forms of operations research, special studies,
Nutrition-sensitive actions in various ministries / sectors	research and consultations to guide: agenda setting, identification of policy/ program/intervention options and their fit with a) the problem and		improvement/quality assurance schemes and monitoring and evaluation systems.
A national multisectoral nutrition agenda			
NGO projects (typically sub- national)			
Implementation innovations			

#### **Stages of Implementation Science Research**



Brown et al., An overview of research/evaluation designs for dissemination and implementation. Annual Rev Pub Health, 2017.

### What is Program Adaptation?

The degree to which an innovation is changed or modified by a user in the process of its adoption and implementation (Rogers, 1995)

Changes to an efficacious program or its components to meet the needs of a new population and community while retaining fidelity to its core elements (Solomon, 2006)

#### Dimensions



# Why Study Adaptation?

- Evidence-based public health translation of research to practice is essential to improving the public's health
- Adaptations occur in practice:
  - Organizations sometimes make changes, or adaptations, to the original EBI to fit their needs (Durlak & Dupre, 2008; Stirman *et al.*, 2013; Moore et al., 2013)
  - Levels of 60-80% compliance for implementation of intervention across hundreds of studies (Durlak & Dupre, 2008)
- Professionals need skills in program adaptation (Escoffery *et al.*, 2012)

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### **Types of Adaptation**

- Deletions or additions (enhancements) of program components;
- Changes in the manner or intensity of administration of program components called for in the program manual, curriculum, or core components analysis;
- Cultural and other modifications required by local circumstances.
   (CSAP, 2002; McKleroy, 2006)

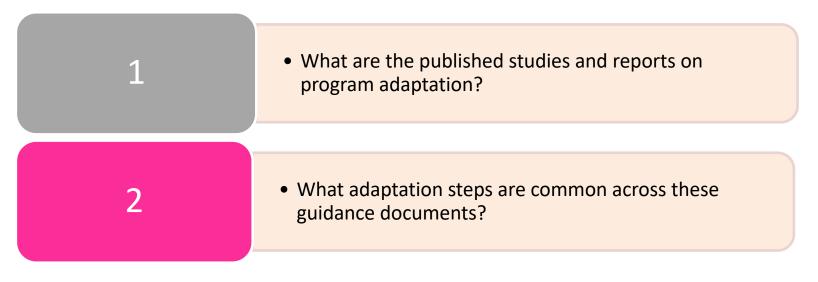




- Scoping Study of Adaptation Frameworks
- Systematic Review of Public Health Program Adaptations of Evidence-based Interventions (EBIs) Globally

# **Scoping Study**

# Purpose: To inventory published guidance on the process of program adaptation





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# **Scoping Study**

• We identified frameworks by:

 searching Google Scholar,
 searching PubMed, PsycINFO,
 PsycNET and CINAHL databases for an associated systematic review, and
 reviewing reference lists of framework articles.

- Coded the frameworks and their steps into Excel and grouped common steps
- Compiled adaptation steps

We followed the six recommended steps of a scoping study (Arksey & O'Malley, 2005):



#### **13 Adaptation Frameworks**

#### **Grey Literature**

- CSAP's Guidelines for Balancing Program Fidelity/ Adaptation
- Research Tested Intervention Programs (RTIPs) Adaptation Guidelines
- Intervention Mapping (IM) ADAPT

#### **Published Literature**

- Map of Adaptation Process (MAP)
- Research-based Program Adaptation
- Adapting Evidence-Based Programs to New Contexts
- ADAPT-ITT
- Cultural Adaptation
- Cultural Adaptation Process
- Planned Adaptation
- Step Framework
- Method for Program Adaptation through Community Engagement (M-PACE)
- General Adaptation Guidance: A Guide to Adapting Evidence-Based Sexual Health Curricula

## **11 Adaptation Steps**

- 1. Assess community
- 2. Understand the intervention
- 3. Select intervention
- 4. Consult with experts
- 5. Consult with stakeholders
- 6. Decide what needs adaptation
- 7. Adapt the original program
- 8. Train staff
- Test the adapted materials
   10.Implement

#### 11.Evaluate

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 Eleven program adaptation steps were identified and grouped into categories.



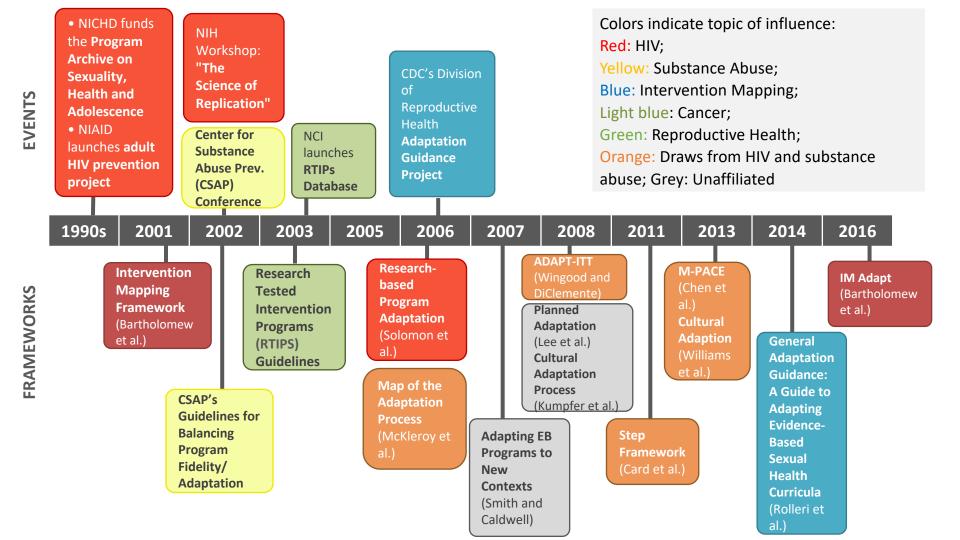
## **11 Adaptation Steps**

- 1. Assess community
- 2. Understand the intervention
- 3. Select intervention
- 4. Consult with experts
- 5. Consult with stakeholders
- 6. Decide what needs adaptation
- 7. Adapt the original program
- 8. Train staff
- Test the adapted materials
   10.Implement
- 11.Evaluate

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 Eight of these steps were recommended by more than five frameworks: #1-3, #6-7, and #9-11





### **Systematic Review of Adapted EBIs**

# Purpose: To assess adaptations of evidence-based, public health interventions in the published literature

1	<ul> <li>What are the reasons for and common types of adaptations being made to EBIs as reported in the literature?</li> </ul>
2	<ul> <li>What steps are reported for making adaptations to EBIs?</li> </ul>
3	<ul> <li>What individual, intervention and organizational outcomes are assessed in evaluations of adapted EBIs?</li> </ul>



#### **Two Abstractors**

- EBI characteristics
- Original/adapted EBI, disease/topic, location
- Reasons for adaptation
- Types of modifications
- Context, content modifications (Stirman et al., 2013)
- Type of adaptation steps taken from common adaptation frameworks (Escoffery *et al.,* in press)
- Implementation outcomes (Proctor et al., 2011)
- Intervention outcomes

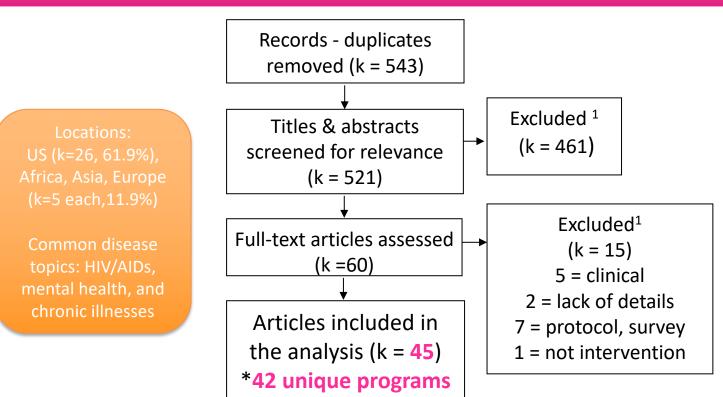
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#### **Flow Diagram of Reviewed Articles**





### **Reasons for Adaptation (n=42)**

#### Common reasons:

- new culture (k=27; 64.3%)
- new target population (k=25; 59.5%)
- new community setting (k=24; 57.1%)

#### Less common reasons:

- improve ease of implementation
- improve accessibility
- condense the original intervention

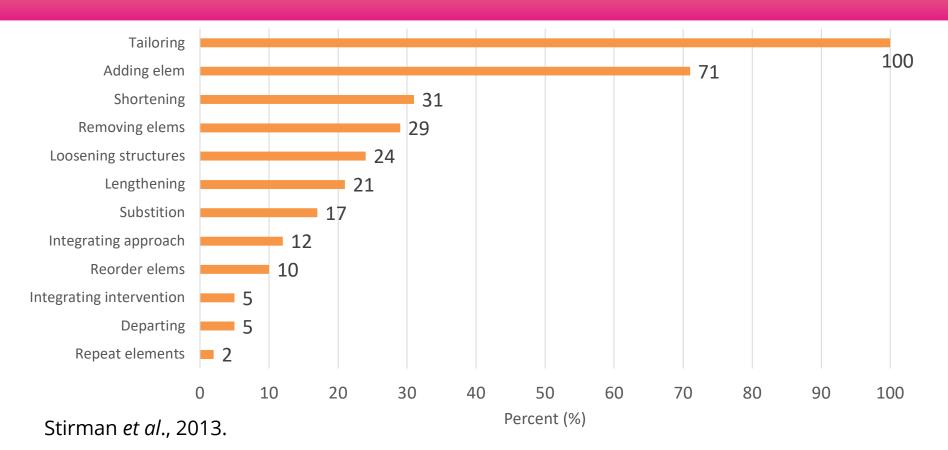


#### **Adaptation Frameworks**

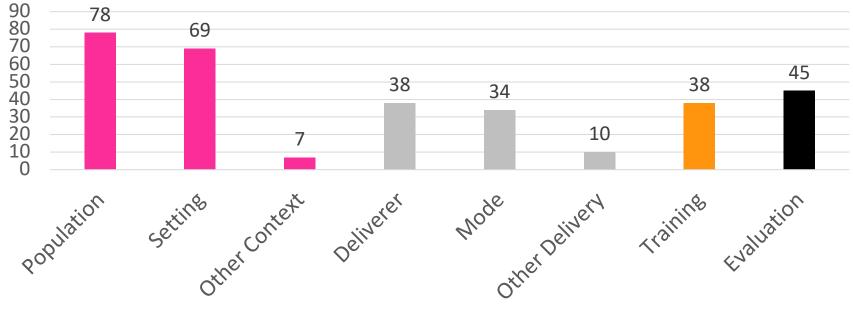
- 15 articles (36%) referenced a pre-existing framework
- Most commonly mentioned = Ecological Validity Model, Map of the Adaptation Process, and Cultural Adaptation Framework (2 studies each)
- Others mentioned at least once = Diffusion of Innovation, Replicating Effective Programs, CDC's Adaptation Traffic Light, ADAPT-ITT



#### **Content Adaptations (n=42)**



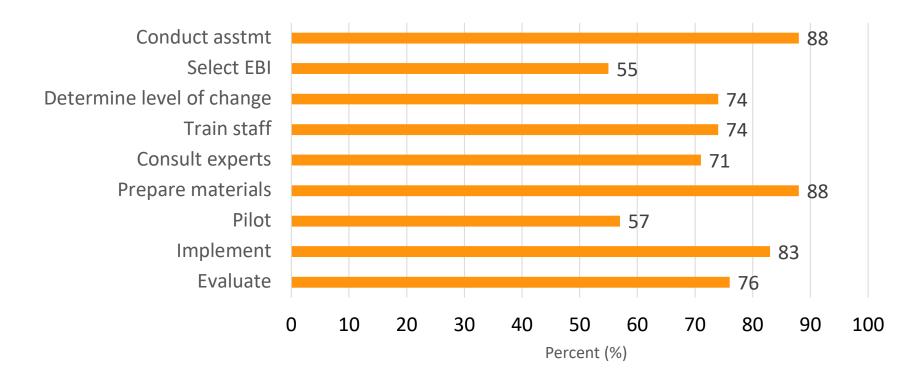
#### **Other Adaptations**



Percent (%)

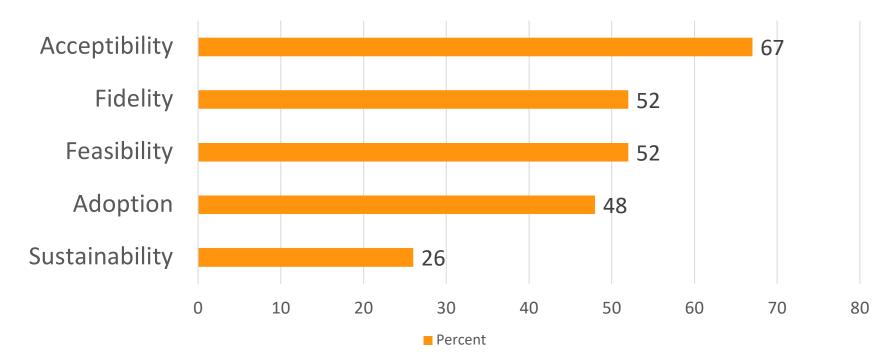
Stirman *et al.*, 2013.

### Steps in Adaptation (n=42)



Escoffery *et al*. A scoping study of program adaptation frameworks for EBIs. *Trans Beh Med*, in press.

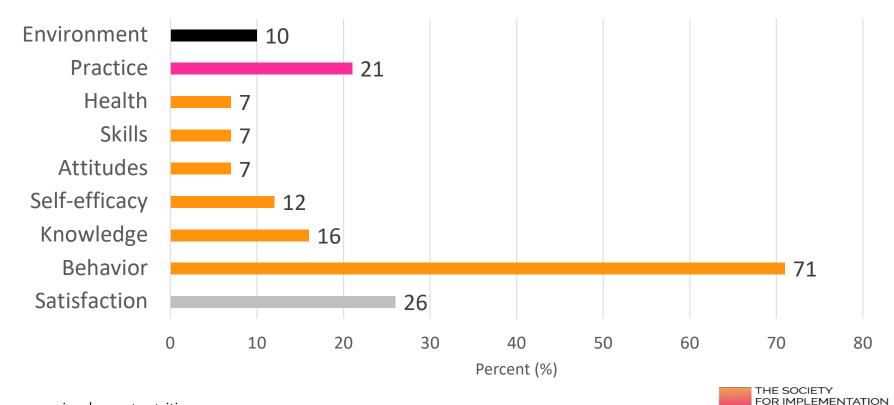
#### Implementation Outcomes (n=42)



Proctor *et al*. Outcomes for implementation research, 2011. www.implementnutrition.org



#### **Other Intervention Outcomes**



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### Limitations

- Studies were limited by bibliographic databases searched and key words
- We also limited our searches to *public health interventions* or *community settings* and did not focus on clinical care or interventions from other disciplines

#### **Future Research to Advance Adaptation**

- Examine reasons and composites of program changes
- Evaluate adapted EBIs to determine whether these versions are as effective as the original or other adapted versions
- Determine key elements re: adaptation to record and standardize across studies
- Consider a clearinghouse for adapted programs to understand the issues of ecological validity (adaptome) (Chambers, 2016)



### **Contribution to IS**

- These studies advance our understanding of program adaptation:
  - Identify common adaptation frameworks or models for implementing evidence-based interventions (EBIs)
  - Contribute to the literature by consolidating key steps in the approach to program adaptation of EBIs and describing the associated tasks in each step
  - Advance our understanding of common types of adaptation in practice



### Conclusion

- In the uptake of EBIs, program adaptations will occur
- Adaptations need to be systematically planned, implemented and reported
  - Describe rationale for the adaptation, process (adaptation steps) and players
  - Plan for adaptation by using an adaptation framework
- Need for creation of standardized reporting elements for describing EBI/program adaptation



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- Proctor E, *et al*. Outcomes for implementation research: conceptual distinctions, measurement challenges, and research agenda. *Adm Policy Ment Health* 2011;38(2):65-76.





- Cancer Prevention and Control Research Network's Putting Public Health Evidence in Action Training Workshop <a href="http://cpcrn.org/pub/evidence-in-action/">http://cpcrn.org/pub/evidence-in-action/</a>
- General Adaptation Guidance: A Guide to Adapting Evidence-Based Sexual Health Curricula <u>http://recapp.etr.org/recapp/documents/programs/GeneralAdaptationG</u> <u>uidanceFINAL.pdf</u>
- Developing Strategies for Child Maltreatment Prevention: A Guide for Adapting Evidence-Based Programs <a href="https://txicfw.socialwork.utexas.edu/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/Guide-to-Adapting-an-Evidence-Based-lintervention.pdf">https://txicfw.socialwork.utexas.edu/wpcontent/uploads/2016/09/Guide-to-Adapting-an-Evidence-Based-<a href="https://txicfw.socialwork.utexas.edu/wp-science-based-lintervention.pdf">https://txicfw.socialwork.utexas.edu/wpcontent/uploads/2016/09/Guide-to-Adapting-an-Evidence-Based-<a href="https://txicfw.socialwork.utexas.edu/wp-science-based-lintervention.pdf">https://txicfw.socialwork.utexas.edu/wpcontent/uploads/2016/09/Guide-to-Adapting-an-Evidence-Based-</a>

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  - NCI/CDC U48 DP005017-01S8 Cancer Prevention and Control Research Network (CPCRN), <u>http://cpcrn.org/</u>







#### **IM ADAPT Trial**



Contact Cam Escoffery at cescoff@emory.edu

#### Eligibility:

- Be a public health professional, researcher, or student
- Have regular access to the internet
- Be willing to engage in a cancer prevention and control planning or adaptation process
- Be either:
  - ✓ in the process of adapting an evidence-based intervention (EBI).
  - have adapted an EBI
  - planning to adapt an EBI
  - participating in a public health degree program

#### **Participation:**

- Baseline and 2 months follow-up (\$50 each)
- ✓ 5 modules on IM ADAPT adaptation process



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## Summary of steps and definitions

Step name	Step description
1) Assess community	<ul> <li>Identify behavioral determinants and risk behaviors of the new target population using focus groups, interviews, needs assessments, and logic models</li> <li>Assess organizational capacity to implement the program</li> </ul>
2) Understand the EBI(s)	<ul> <li>Identify and review relevant EBIs and their program materials</li> <li>Understand the theory behind the programs and their core elements</li> </ul>
3) Select intervention	<ul> <li>Select the program that best matches the new population and context</li> </ul>
4) Consult with experts	<ul> <li>Consult content experts, including original program developers, as needed</li> <li>Incorporate expert advice into program</li> </ul>



Step name	Step description
5) Consult with stakeholders	<ul> <li>Seek input from advisory boards and community planning groups where program implementation takes place</li> <li>Identify stakeholder partners who can champion program adoption in new setting and ensure program fidelity</li> </ul>
6) Decide on needed adaptations	<ul> <li>Decide whether to adapt or implement original program</li> <li>Determine how original and new target population differ in terms of developmental processes and risk and protective factors</li> <li>Identify areas where EBI needs to be adapted and include possible changes in program structure, content, provider, or delivery methods</li> <li>Retain fidelity to core elements</li> <li>Systematically reduce mismatches between the program and the new context</li> </ul>
7) Adapt the original EBI	<ul> <li>Select and train staff to ensure quality implementation</li> <li>Develop adaptation plan</li> <li>Adapt the original program contents through collaborative efforts</li> <li>Make cultural adaptations continuously through pilot testing</li> <li>Core components responsible for change should not be modified</li> </ul>
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Step name	Step description	
8) Train staff	<ul> <li>Select and train staff to ensure quality implementation</li> </ul>	
9) Test the adapted materials	<ul> <li>Pretest adapted materials with stakeholder groups</li> <li>Conduct readability tests</li> <li>Pilot test adapted EBI in new target population</li> <li>Modify EBI further, if necessary</li> </ul>	
10) Implement the adapted EBI	<ul> <li>Develop implementation plan based on results generated in previous steps</li> <li>Identify implementers, behaviors, and outcomes</li> <li>Develop scope, sequence, and instructions</li> <li>Execute adapted EBI</li> </ul>	
11) Evaluate	<ul> <li>Document the adaptation process and evaluate the process and outcomes of the adapted intervention as implemented</li> <li>Write evaluation questions; choose indicators, measures, and the evaluation design; plan data collection, analysis, and reporting</li> <li>Employ empowerment evaluation approach framework to improve program implementation</li> </ul>	



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"Most adaptations are prompted by changes to the culture or characteristics of the target population. However, adaptations are also *important to consider the different* organizational capacity and characteristics of the implementing agency. What is your take on this?"

### – Wendy Gonzalez



"Currently, there is a lot of talk on "adaptive" programming" which should not only occur at planning/design phase but on "real time" through out the program cycle (implementation etc). One way of doing this is by using implementation experiences as evidence to inform adaptation. What is your perspective on this?" – Linner Cherotich



"The challenge is that in most cases these experiences are not intentionally monitored ,documented and widely accepted as "sufficient evidence"

### - Linner Cherotich



# "Are there instances where no adaptation of EBI is required?"





"Many new nutrition intervention strategies are introduced as "pilot" programs presumably implemented at a reasonable scale, say district or province. What have insights from adaptation research taught us about critical components in taking pilot programs to national scale?"





"In your work have you come across research where communities were engaged (as part of consulting stakeholders) to give their views regarding the intervention selected to be adapted?"

#### - Lemma Ferew



"How do you cope with the usually pre-defined and largely donor imposed monitoring and evaluation systems if your adaptation changes activities mid implementation?"

– Anne-Marie Mayer



"It seems a critical but difficult decision is in defining core vs non-core elements, especially with behavioral interventions. For instance, many aspects of the messages themselves, dose/frequency/timing, mode of delivery, deliverer (many aspects), setting of delivery, intensity of training, etc. How can these judgments about core vs non-core be made?" - David Pelletier



"It seems likely that the published descriptions of adaptations may represent some of the better practices... is there any research to-date to examine how well or how poorly it is done in more typical situations?"

### - David Pelletier



"During this research, were some of the barriers to adaptation explored? Or what barriers does Cam think are the most prevalent?"

#### - Leah Salm



"I have a question around dissemination (perhaps a 12th step). In trying to identify implementation science literature it is rather scarce due potential in part to the reluctance to publish or share misteps/challenges and what might not work well. Do you know of a repository of public health implementation science research?



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