Improving the uptake of evidence-based interventions to improve care and outcomes

Evidence-based interventions are crucial to solving a wide array of domestic and global health challenges. However, the implementation of these interventions in different settings, such as community-based organizations and health care institutions, is often overlooked.

Within the multidisciplinary field of implementation science, The RTI Center for Health Care Advancement seeks to understand the barriers and facilitators to implementing evidence-based interventions successfully. Using a variety of research methods—including a mixture of quantitative and qualitative approaches—we assess and compare strategies for implementing evidence-based health care or clinical policies, practices, and interventions; we also evaluate evidence-based interventions across the care continuum.

We work collaboratively with key stakeholders—including implementers, community members, government agency workers, advocacy organization personnel, and other researchers—to develop contextually appropriate approaches. With these efforts, we aim to increase the use of evidence-based interventions into real-world practice and advance implementation science methodology.

Areas of Expertise

- Coordination of Centers for Multisite Consortia
- Experimental Design
- Program Evaluation
- Intervention and Implementation Strategy Selection and Planning
- Implementation Support of Evidence-Based Strategies
- Development of Evidence-Based Interventions
HEALing Communities Study (HCS): Developing and Testing an Integrated Approach to Address the Opioid Crisis (National Institute on Drug Abuse [NIDA]/Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration)

RTI International is serving as the data coordinating center for a multisite trial that evaluates the impact of the Communities That Heal (CTH) intervention compared to usual care in waitlist communities. CTH is a community-engaged intervention that provides a comprehensive, data-driven community response plan to deploy evidence-based practices across multiple sectors to reduce opioid-related overdose deaths and associated outcomes. Using a mixed-methods design, HCS will test the impact of the CTH intervention in 67 highly affected communities located in Kentucky, Massachusetts, New York, or Ohio.

Rapid Evaluation and Assessment of National Diabetes Prevention Targeting Vulnerable Populations (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)

RTI conducted a culturally responsive evaluation that integrated implementation science-based frameworks—mainly the Consolidated Framework for Implementation Science—to examine two National Diabetes Prevention Program (National DPP) programs and the strategies implemented to engage, enroll, and retain underserved populations. The evaluation included primary qualitative and quantitative data collection and analysis of secondary data provided by the sites. The evaluation also included the creation of a toolkit for program administrators and lifestyle coaches looking to implement the National DPP among underserved populations.

The Substance Abuse Treatment to HIV Care Project (NIDA)

RTI is leading a cluster-randomized, type 2 effectiveness-implementation hybrid trial designed to simultaneously test the effectiveness of (1) a motivational interviewing–based brief intervention for substance use and (2) an organizational-level implementation strategy for implementing this brief clinical intervention in 39 community-based HIV/AIDS service organizations.

Coordinating Center for Improving the Management of symptoms during And following Cancer Treatment (IMPACT) (National Cancer Institute)

The IMPACT research consortium uses implementation science approaches to accelerate the adoption of integrated systems that collect patient-reported symptom data and to trigger a clinical response consistent with evidence-based guidelines to accomplish sustaining changes to clinical practice. As the coordinating center for three research centers, RTI facilitates the research efforts by providing logistical, operational, and scientific support for development and execution of implementation studies funded by these research centers.

Contact Us

healthcare@rti.org
Kaajal Singh
Principal, Client Engagement
kaajalsingh@rti.org
Molly Vaughan, PhD, DPT
Quality Lead
mvaughan@rti.org