Assessing Context in Implementation Research Using Qualitative Methods

Key Takeaways:
- Context is dynamic and multi-level, and therefore may require multiple methods to assess.
- These qualitative methods might include ethnography, co-creating theories of change, and brainwriting pre-mortem.
- Assessing at multiple points (pre-implementation, mid-implementation, etc.) over time is also important.
- A semi-structured approach (e.g., with templates) to assessing context works well with team-based data collection and analysis.
- Theories, models, and frameworks (TMF) can and should support assessment of context, but it’s important to make space for emergent discovery (i.e., discovery that doesn’t necessarily align with TMF).

Readings Referenced:
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Readings Referenced, continued:

- UCLA IS Hub YouTube Playlist: https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLIeXfMZXqWd5YHUufQhmISwfljgwcbIAjZ

Readings Responsive to Consultation Questions:


Designing questions to assess regularly throughout implementation:
- Documenting the Complexities of Implementation with Periodic Reflections (Drs. Erin Finley & Alison Hamilton): https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UBBnj1o3Auki&t=24s

Designing Interview Guides:
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Readings Responsive to Consultation Questions, continued:

Analyzing digital data/social media data:

Using qualitative methods to address how implicit racism and white supremacy might undermine equity interventions to eliminate racial disparities

Implementation Science Questions/Issues:

Measuring implementation context to address health disparities:
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Implementation Science Questions/Issues, continued:

- **Identifying key aspects of contextual differences:**

- **Balancing context needs with budget constraints:**

- **Brainwriting pre-mortem, virtual ethnography, and theory of change methods:**
Ensuring fidelity when handing off:


Choosing among different implementation science frameworks for your study:

- Dissemination & Implementation Models in Health: https://dissemination-implementation.org/
- Strategies for Selecting and Using Dissemination & Implementation Theories, Models, and Frameworks (Drs. Russ Glasgow & Alison Hamilton): https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m3MnkqO6cwY&t=2s

Approaching implementation scientists/finding collaborators and/or demonstrating competence: