



Durham

Implementation Science Lab

**Durham VA HSR&D
Center of Innovation**

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What Is Implementation Science?

Implementation science is the study of methods to promote the integration of research findings and evidence into healthcare policy and practice. It seeks to understand the behavior of healthcare professionals and other stakeholders as a key variable in the sustainable uptake, adoption, and implementation of evidence-based interventions.

*Source: NIH Fogarty International Center ,
www.fic.nih.gov*

Goals & Objectives

Under the auspices of the Durham HSR&D COIN, the goal of the Implementation Science Laboratory is to direct the Centers' methodological and practical expertise in implementation to address the key questions of implementation.

The objectives of the lab include:

- Working with health care operations partners, VISN and central office to cultivate partnerships, coordinate implementation studies based on candidate interventions ready for implementation.
- Bringing together experts in implementation science and related methods to provide education and consultation from initial study development to data analysis.
- Expanding implementation science scholarship among faculty and fellows.

Resources

The Implementation Lab is working to build a variety of resources to facilitate investigators' and partners' research endeavors in conducting implementation research. Current resources include:

- Consultation on study development, grant preparation, and conduct of implementation science
- Assistance with identifying and connecting with operational partners
- Seminars and research meetings on implementation science topics
- Implementation Science Resource Library for HSR&D COIN investigators and staff
- Directory of HSR&D COIN research partners and prospective partners
- Listing of web resources dedicated to implementation science

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Examples of HSR&D COIN Partnered Research & Evaluation

- CREATE: Transforming Prevention into Action (Primary Partner: National Center for Health Promotion & Disease Prevention)
- VA Caregiver Support Program Partnered Evaluation (Primary Partner: Care Management and Social Work Services)
- Lung Cancer Screening Demonstration (Primary Partner: National Center for Health Promotion & Disease Prevention)
- DOD/VA Chaplains and Mental Health Quality Improvement Project (Primary Partner: Office of Mental Health Services and Defense Centers of Excellence for Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury)
- Practice Based Research Network for Women Veterans Research (Primary Partner: Office of Women’s Health Services)
- Warrior to Soul Mate Relationship Enhancement Program (Primary Partner: Office of Patient-Centered Care & Cultural Transformation)
- Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (Primary Partner: VISN 6 and VA Dialysis Sub-Council)

The Implementation Science Lab welcomes your ideas and suggestions as to how we can advance the field of implementation science with innovative and new research ideas, concepts, and methods to best serve our VA and other healthcare systems. Our core staff is available to provide consultation in the area of research study planning and development, including evaluation projects. You can contact us by emailing Brandolyn White at brandolyn.white@va.gov. Thank you for all that you do to serve our veterans and our community!

Organizational Theory of Implementation Effectiveness

The Center and Lab’s efforts in implementation science is guided by the Organizational Theory of Implementation Effectiveness, developed by Center collaborator Dr. Bryan Weiner. The theory posits that the effective implementation of the innovation (the intervention) is a function of (1) the various VA clinics’ readiness for change, (2) the quality of the implementation policies and practices put into place, (3) the climate for implementation that results from these policies and practices, (4) the extent to which intended users of the innovation perceive that use of the innovation fosters the fulfillment of their values, and (5) the extent to which the innovation fits with task requirements (Fig. 1).

Figure 1. COIN Implementation Model

