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The complexity in guideline
implementation

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The complexity in guideline implementation



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The complexity in guideline implementation

Unless a **guideline** process encompasses the relevant aspects of **complexity**, we risk not doing justice to the **assessment** of the interventions, and our recommendations may not provide countries with the guidance they need to **implement** these recommendations.

WHO 2023



The complexity in guideline implementation

Trends in guideline implementation: an updated scoping review

*Peters, S., Sukumar, K., Blanchard, S., Ramasamy, A., Malinowski, J., Ginex, P., Senerth, E., Corremans, M., Munn, Z., Kredo, T., Remon, L. P., Ngeh, E., Kalman, L., Alhabib, S., Amer, Y. S., & Gagliardi, A. (2022). Trends in guideline implementation: an updated scoping review. Implementation science : IS, 17(1), 50.
<https://doi.org/10.1186/s13012-022-01223-6>*

GIN Guidelines
International
Network

The complexity in guideline implementation

Medical Research Council framework for development and evaluation of complex interventions: A comprehensive guidance

What are Complex Interventions?



Shahsavari, H., Matourypour, P., Ghiyasvandian, S., & Nejad, M. R. G. (2020). Medical Research Council framework for development and evaluation of complex interventions: A comprehensive guidance. *Journal of education and health promotion*, 9, 88. https://doi.org/10.4103/jehp.jehp_649_19



The complexity in guideline implementation

- **Phase 1:** What makes a guideline complex? What drives the complexity in its implementation?
(2023)
 - Consensus meeting on determinants
 - Delphi procedure with stakeholders
 - Development of definition
- **Phase 2:** Comparison with existing implementation frameworks (2024)
 - Listing and categorizing of frameworks
 - Development of recommendations on how to deal with this complexity

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The complexity in guideline implementation

- **Consensus on:**
 - # of settings
 - # behaviours targeted
 - Fit with reality
 - Differences in education
 - Level of collaboration required
 - Scope of change
 - Level of evidence
 - Workload

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- **No Consensus on:**

- Number of outcomes targeted in the guideline
- Level of flexibility in the use of the guideline
- Applicability of the guideline in current practice
- Urgency of change
- Willingness to change (readiness)
- Hardware needed

→ Not in definition, will be revisited in Phase 2 (Comparative exercise)

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- What is next?
 - Listing of existing implementation theories, models and frameworks (such as defined by Nilsen, 2015) in health sciences

Search strategies

- Starting point: papers from Nilsen (2015) and Nilsen & Bernhardsson (2019)
- Websites dealing with implementation theories, models and frameworks
- Search strategies in Medline (Ovid) and Embase (Elsevier)

Nilsen P. (2015). Making sense of implementation theories, models and frameworks. *Implementation science : IS*, 10, 53. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s13012-015-0242-0>

Nilsen, P., & Bernhardsson, S. (2019). Context matters in implementation science: a scoping review of determinant frameworks that describe contextual determinants for implementation outcomes. *BMC health services research*, 19(1), 189. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12913-019-4015-3>

The complexity in guideline implementation

- What is next?
 - Comparison with existing frameworks, in international collaboration
 - Formulation of recommendations?
 - Development of flowchart?
 - Development of digital tool?
- Collaboration of members from Scientific methods group of GIN
- Funding

Follow up

Kindly inform us if you have an interest in participating in this project.

→ Comparative exercise between the different models and frameworks

→ Developing a flowchart/tool to select a suitable model

→ People with hands-on experience to test the flowchart in an implementation project

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