Using Data to Promote Equitable Implementation: Decision-Making, Data, and Uncertainty in Complex Systems

Rohit Ramaswamy & Kirsten Kainz
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Overview of our time together

- Introduction and Welcome - 10 minutes
- Planning for equitable implementation: *fours questions* - 10 minutes
- Small group discussion: Data collection for equitable outcomes - 15 minutes
- Identifying barriers to equitable implementation - the Race Equity Map - 10 minutes
- Small group discussion: Data collection for assessment - 15 minutes
- Developing strategies for equitable implementation - CEJ Principles - 10 minutes
- Small group discussion: Developing an action plan - 15 minutes
- Evaluating results - a multi-pronged approach - 10 minutes
- Large group discussion: What have we learned? - 10 minutes

*A note about the term equity

https://sites.google.com/view/datacollectionforequity/home
Introduction and Welcome

- Briefly, please state your name, your organization and your role.
- “I am Rohit Ramaswamy, Professor at the Gillings School of Global Public Health at UNC”
Defining Equitable Implementation

- Two ways of defining:
  - Passive: Ensuring that implementation is directed at achieving outcomes for everyone
  - Active: Ensuring that implementation is directed toward improving equity
- Our focus will be on the second definition
Planning for Equitable Information

Four questions:

- How do we define outcomes for equitable implementation?
- How do we identify factors that affect equitable implementation?
- How do we develop strategies to address these barriers?
- How do we evaluate what we have accomplished?
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcome</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Acceptability</td>
<td>Is my implementation acceptable to everyone, not just those structurally empowered and privileged?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appropriateness</td>
<td>Is my implementation a good fit to the objective of advancing equity?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adoption</td>
<td>Does my implementation encourage changes in behaviors to advance equity?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Costs</td>
<td>Does my implementation result in affordable solutions?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feasibility</td>
<td>Does my implementation facilitate ease of access and use?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fidelity</td>
<td>Does my implementation remain true to the principles of advancing equity and justice?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reach</td>
<td>Does my implementation result in ensuring access to everyone?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sustainability</td>
<td>Does my implementation include system changes that persist over time?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Making data work for us

Data cannot drive learning
What drives curiosity?

- experience
- dissonance
- hunches
- intuition
- HOPE
- pain
- surprise
- fear
- requirements
- Theory
- Research Evidence
SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION

• Select one program/initiative/intervention that a member of your group is working on.
• Describe the target population of the program/initiative/intervention
• Select three outcomes for equitable implementation that would be the most relevant for your program.
• Discuss how you would measure these outcomes using an equitable implementation lens.
• How would you collect data you need for your measurements?
Identifying Factors: The Race Equity Map

- Used to help community coalitions assess where they are in their journey to address racism
- Adapted from tools developed by the Annie E. Casey foundation
- Aims:
  - To help frame, promote, and advance understanding and dialogue among coalition members around key concepts of racial equity and the race equity journey;
  - To serve as a self-assessment by coalition members of the coalition’s current position/stage of development on the race equity journey (not the personal nor individual organization);
  - To offer direction (and possibly prioritization) in setting aims, goals and planning for advancing race equity within their local coalitions and communities
## Collaborative Self Assessment Process

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Why start?</th>
<th>Not yet started</th>
<th>Starting – “We’re in the early stages and are still figuring things out”</th>
<th>Gaining skill - “We’re getting the hang of this!”</th>
<th>Sustaining - “This is who we are and how we do our work”</th>
<th>Now</th>
<th>Goal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OK with things as they are</td>
<td>Color blind</td>
<td>Diversity only</td>
<td>Race conscious</td>
<td>Race equity approach</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. We prioritize addressing racial equity. We don’t see any need to prioritize racial equity. In some cases, we think this could be unhelpful. Different groups in our community have different levels of health and wellbeing. However, racial equity is not a top priority when planning our work. We recognize the [negative impact of racial inequity](#) for our community. We have begun to see the importance of programs to address this. Improving the health and well being of people of color is very important to us. We use a [racial equity lens](#) in prioritizing and guiding all our work. We regularly assess whether our strategies proactively improve the lives of people of color under the guidance of people of color. We will address people of color.
Determinants of Equitable Implementation

- Individual characteristics:
  - Is the community ready to undertake equitable implementation?
  - Are all people able to contribute to this process?

- Community/organizational characteristics:
  - To what extent do norms reflect the dominant or majority culture?
  - Are the norms inclusive of people who might have different ways of approaching or doing things?

- Contextual characteristics:
  - How well do our systems and processes support equitable implementation?
  - What resources (people, money, community or organizational assets) exist to support equitable implementation?
SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION

• Review the three outcomes you selected for equitable implementation of your program/initiative/intervention.
• Discuss how the individual, community and contextual characteristics might be barriers to achieving outcomes in your specific program/initiative/intervention.
• How would you collect data to identify the most important characteristics affecting you program/initiative/intervention?
• From your current knowledge, what are three factors (across all categories) you need to address to ensure that the implementation of your program/initiative/intervention advances equity?
Taking Action - Principles for Collaborating for Equity & Justice

- Principle 1: Address structural racism
  - Explicitly address issues of social and economic injustice and structural racism
- Principle 2: Employ community development
  - Ensure residents have equal power in determining the coalition or collaborative's agenda and resource allocation
- Principle 3: Employ community organizing
  - Work to build resident leadership and power.
- Principle 4: Focus on structural change
  - Change policies and systems
- Principle 5: Build on community-engaged scholarship
  - Use research on what works as a starting point
- Principle 6: Build core functions
  - Build infrastructure for coordination, communication, facilitation and capacity building.
SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION

- Review the three factors you identified as the most critical for your program/initiative/intervention to advance equity.
- Using the handout provided, map these factors to the CEJ principles that most reflect the most critical priorities for your program/initiative/intervention.
- Discuss how these principles can facilitate equitable implementation of your program/initiative/intervention.
Evaluating Results - A Multipronged Approach - SCALE Initiative

- 20 month learning and doing collaborative between 24 communities (20 pacesetter and 4 “mentor”)
- 3 interrelated areas of focus
- Accelerate community transformation to achieve a Culture of Health with improved population health, wellbeing and equity
- Create rapid spread between communities through the development of relationships and “an adoption culture”
- Develop systems to support rapid dissemination between communities
- Strong formative evaluation to understand what works in communities
Iterative Learning Based Approach

Analyze and Synthesize Data

Discuss Results with Stakeholders

Findings guide improvements in evaluation

Findings guide improvements in implementation
SCALE Evaluation Approach

SCALE communities

RWJF Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

SCALE Implementation Team:

SCALE Support System

METHOD

Inquiry

Observation

Reflection
LARGE GROUP DISCUSSION

• What have you learned? What resonated with you?
• What questions do you still have?
• How will you be able to use what you have learned in your work?