



Behavioural Medicine for Global Health: Challenges and Opportunities

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Challenges and Opportunities

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- Basic to Applied Translation (T1)
- Methods
 - Comparators
 - Self-report of Unblinded Participants
 - Efficiency
- Post-Study Challenges
 - Publication Lags
 - Building a More Cumulative Science
 - Implementation
- Challenges and Opportunities with COVID-19





Improving T1 Translation

Preliminary Analyses of FY18 NIH Behavioral Intervention Grants

- 66% evaluating adaptations of existing interventions (different group, different delivery, different problem)
- 20% comparative effectiveness or D&I research
- 14% evaluating novel intervention components or packages





HHS Public Access

Author manuscript Behav Res Ther. Author manuscript; available in PMC 2018 February 07.

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Published in final edited form as: Behav Res Ther. 2018 February ; 101: 3–11. doi:10.1016/j.brat.2017.07.002.

The NIH Science of Behavior Change Program: Transforming the science through a focus on mechanisms of change

Lisbeth Nielsen^{a,*}, Melissa Riddle^b, Jonathan W. King^a, the NIH Science of Behavior Change Implementation Team, Will M. Aklin^c, Wen Chen^d, David Clark^b, Elaine Collier^e, Susan Czajkowski^f, Layla Esposito^g, Rebecca Ferrer^f, Paige Green^f, Christine Hunter^h, Karen Kehlⁱ, Rosalind King^g, Lisa Onken^a, Janine M. Simmons^j, Luke Stoeckel^k, Catherine Stoneyⁱ, Lois Tullyⁱ, and Wendy Weber^d

"The goal of the NIH Science of Behavior Change (SOBC) Common Fund Program is to provide the basis for an experimental medicine approach to behavior change that focuses on identifying and measuring the mechanisms that underlie behavioral patterns we are trying to change."



Selecting Appropriate Comparators



Check for

Journal of Clinical Epidemiology 110 (2019) 74-81

REVIEW

The selection of comparators for randomized controlled trials of health-related behavioral interventions: recommendations of an NIH expert panel

Kenneth E. Freedland^{a,*}, Abby C. King^b, Walter T. Ambrosius^c, Evan Mayo-Wilson^d, David C. Mohr^e, Susan M. Czajkowski^f, Lehana Thabane^g, Linda M. Collins^h, George W. Rebok^d, Shaun P. Treweekⁱ, Thomas D. Cook^j, Jack D. Edinger^k, Catherine M. Stoney^l, Rebecca A. Campo^m, Deborah Young-Hyman^m, William T. Riley^m, for the National Institutes of Health Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research Expert Panel on Comparator Selection in Behavioral and Social Science Clinical Trials



- Positioning trial in an applicable research framework
- Defining the primary purpose
- Choosing the optimal comparator
 - Works at all?
 - Relative to clinically relevant alternatives?
 - How or why it works?
- Address barriers
- Address limitations
- Finalize choice

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Unblinded Participants and Self-Report



Journal of Clinical Psychology, 69, 2012

The Discrepancy between Subjective and Objective Measures of Sleep in Older Adults Receiving CBT for Comorbid Insomnia

Hannah G. Lund, 1 Bruce D. Rybarczyk, 1 Paul B. Perrin, 1 David Leszczyszyn, 1 and Edward Stepanski^2



 $Figure \ 1.$ Discrepancy between Subjective and Obejective Measures of Sleep Efficiency by Group at Pre- and Post-Treatment.



Available



Sport and Health Science 4 (2015) 222-

Original article Correlates of subjectively and objectively measured physical activity in young adolescents

Kelly Kavanaugh ^a, Justin B. Moore ^{a,b,*}, Leisha Johnson Hibbett ^c, Andrew T. Kaczynski ^b

"Measuring MVPA via self-report versus accelerometry produces considerably different results in a sample of young adolescents."

- Fastidious about PI and RA blinding
- But unable to blind participants
- Larger effects from subjective vs. objective outcomes
- Outcomes need to extend beyond selfreport

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Rapid Research



R3 Research

- 7 yrs from grant submission to publication much changes and findings may be dated by the time they are published.
- Need faster recruitment, designs, infrastructures and review
- Noted that in response to the SARS outbreak, the Canadian Institutes of Health Research developed and issued a funding announcement that resulted in submissions within 2 weeks, and that were approved for funding within 10 days of submission

Lessons from COVID-19 Research Response

- Rapid review and funding process
- Rapid development infrastructure
- Rapid trials infrastructure

Riley et al. Clinical and Translational Medicine 2013, 2:10 http://www.clintransmed.com/content/2/1/10

 Clinical and Translational Medicine a SpringerOpen Journal

Open Access

PERSPECTIVE

Rapid, responsive, relevant (R3) research: a call for a rapid learning health research enterprise

William T Riley^{1*}, Russell E Glasgow¹, Lynn Etheredge² and Amy P Abernethy³



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Publication Lags



- NIH trials funded in 1979 93% published within 9 yrs (Dickerson et al., 1993) [Interview of PIs]
- Phase I oncology trials 67% published in 7.5 yrs (Camacho et al.,2005)
- IRB approved trials in Univ Hospital Bern 52% published with 8 yrs (von Elm, et al, 2008)
- AMD ct.gov trials 54% published within 2 yrs (Prenner et al., 2011)
- Clinicaltrials.gov registered trials 46% published within 30 mos.(Ross et al., 2012)
- Large RCTs in ct.gov 71% published within 2 yrs (Jones, et al., 2013)
- NHLBI Trials 57% published within 30 mos. (Gordon, et al, 2013)

"Clinical Trials: What a Waste" Ioannidis, BMJ, 2015

NIH R01/U01, 2008-2014

- 655 had zero pubs at 60 mos
- 5% of BSSR grants
- 2% of non-BSSR grants



Figure 3 Survival curve for BSSR predictor. 0= non-BSSR, 1= BSSR

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Building a More Cumulative Intervention Science

SD Total Mean

Control

Experimental

Mean

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a,b,c,d

b.d.f

c,d,f,h

.b,d,h

c,d,h

a,c,

a,d,f,g a,f,g

c,d,h

a,b,g,h

a,c,d,g

Std. Mean Difference

IV. Random, 95% CI

"despite numerous controlled trials of various interventions for a given problem, the field has little guidance on how to improve upon previously studied interventions, adapt them to specific populations, contexts, or delivery mechanisms, or streamline them to facilitate use in realworld settings with constrained resources.

Bove 2016 8.24 1.87 33 10.4 1.89 33 7.3% -1.14 [-1.66, -0.61] 3.8 14 9.2 8.6 16 de Godov 2003 4.2 4.7% -0.71 [-1.46, 0.03] Dovle 2017 18.4 11.8 54 17.2 10 56 9.8% 0.111-0.26, 0.481 Heslop-Marshall 2018 8.8 4.49 115 10 4.42 121 12.1% -0.27 [-0.52, -0.01] 112 0.00 [-0.26, 0.26] Howard 2014 68 37 68 3.8 110 12.0% 12.7 18.7 10 Hynninen 2010 6.8 25 26 6.6% -0.69 [-1.25, -0.12] Kapella 2011 7.7 5.2 9 6.1 3.4 9 3.4% 0.35 [-0.59, 1.28] 12.6 21 11.9 Kunik 2001 8.7 7.6 27 6.6% 0.09 [-0.49, 0.66] -0.11 [-0.36, 0.15] Kunik 2008 15.89 14.87 118 17 46 14.54 120 12.1% Lamers 2010 20.87 5.78 55 21.66 5.78 61 9.9% -0.14 [-0.50, 0.23] c,f,g,h Livermore 2015 4.4 2.6 18 7.3 4.4 13 4.7% -0.82 [-1.56, -0.07] Walters 2013 6.2 4.1 74 6.2 80 10.9% 0.00 [-0.32, 0.32] -0.23 [-0.42, -0.04] 648 672 100.0% Heterogeneity: Tau² = 0.06; Chi² = 28.94, df = 11 (P = 0.002); l² = 62% Test for overall effect: Z = 2.34 (P = 0.02) Favours [experimental] Favours [control]

Std. Mean Difference

SD Total Weight IV, Random, 95% CI

Different components

Ma et al (2020) Effectiveness of cognitive behavioural therapy for chronic obstructive pulmonary disease patients: A systematic review and meta-analysis



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Methodologies for Optimizing

2014.

Behavioral Interventions: Intro to

Special Section (Riley, Rivera, TBM,

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Study or Subgroup



Implementation Challenges

- Well documented across all healthcare "Valley of Death" (Meslin et al., 2013)
- Translation of social and behavioral interventions into practice present unique challenges:
 - Lack of a market-driven delivery system with accompanying regulatory structure
 - Inadequate health insurance reimbursement for effective interventions
 - When reimbursed based on time, not quality or empirical basis
 - Settings in which behavioral interventions are delivered are much more diverse than medicine, and most have competing interests and strained resources
 - Behavioral interventions are complex and resource intensive, requiring considerable training and time to deliver with fidelity
- Strategies to Address Implementation Challenges
 - Interventions and Research Designs that Facilitate Adoption
 - Practice-based Research
 - Evaluating while Disseminating
 - Digital Technologies
 - Transition from Packages to Principles





Nature.com

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GLOBAL COVID Social/Behavioral Research ibtn

- Most current mitigation efforts are social/behavioral interventions (risk communication, handwashing, paid sick leave, social distancing)
 - Based on varying levels of evidence from prior epidemics on adherence and transmission
 - Some with limited generalizability to an epidemic of this nature
 - Most with insufficient precision or quantification to better inform models
 - Some not implemented consistent with existing evidence
- Most with insufficient evidence to quantify "adverse events" such as rapid economic downturn, unemployment, social isolation, life disruption, limited healthcare access (cost-benefit analysis)
- The adverse effects of these mitigation strategies have downstream health effects:
 - Stress, mental health, and suicide
 - Substance abuse
 - Stress-related physical conditions
 - Domestic abuse, child abuse
 - But some positive outcomes as well (motor vehicle accidents, youth violence).



behavioural

Achieving control of simulated outbreaks under different transmission scenarios Hellewell et al., Feasibility of controlling COVID-19 outbreaks by isolation of cases and contacts; *Lancet Global Health*, 2020.

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Interventions to Ameliorate Downstream Health Effects

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- Inadequate access to healthcare
- Exacerbation of Health Disparities
- Telehealth and Digital Interventions



Ebert et al., Digital Interventions for Mental Disorders: Key Features, Efficacy, and Potential for Artificial Intelligence Applications *Frontiers in Psychiatry*, 2019.

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COVID-19 Competitive and Administrative Supplements

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Funding Announcements

Funding Opportunities Specific to COVID-19 and the Behavioral and Social Sciences

The following is a list of recently released NOSIs for Urgent Competitive Revisions and Administrative Supplements encouraging COVID-19 behavioral and social sciences research. Key areas of research encouraged by these NOSIs include various aspects of the Novel Coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) and COVID-19 including risk communication, adherence to and transmission risks from various public health mitigation efforts, economic and social impacts from these mitigation efforts, downstream health and healthcare access effects as a result of these economic and social impacts, and interventions to ameliorate these downstream health impacts. In addition to a number of NIH institute or center (IC) NOSIs, OBSR also has issued a trans-NIH NOSI to address common areas of Intervent across ICe and provide a mechanism for ICe to fund urgent competitive revisions and administrative supplements without publishing their own NOSI.

To sort by title, organization, dates or announcement number, click the table headers below

Title	Announcement	Issuing Organization	Opening Date 👙	Closing Date
Notice of Special Interest (NOSI) regarding the Availability of Administrative Supplements and Urgent Competitive Revisions for Mental Health Research on the 2019 Novel Coronavirus	NOT-MH-20-047	NIMH	3/27/2020	4/16/2021
Notice of Special Interest (NOSI) regarding the Availability of Administrative Supplements and Urgent Competitive Revisions for Research on the 2019 Novel Coronavirus	NOT-DA-20-047	NIDA	3/19/2020	3/31/2021
Notice of Special Interest (NOSI) regarding the Availability of				

- Adherence to mitigation
- Mitigation risk reduction
- Economic impacts
- Social impacts
- Downstream health impacts
- Interventions to ameliorate impacts
- Healthcare access
- Natural experiments

https://obssr.od.nih.gov/researchsupport/funding-announcements/

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GLOBAL Skate to where the puck is going

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How to:

- Optimize unwinding of mitigation to maintain lower transmission rates while improving economic and social recovery
- Provide services to the backlog of "elective" care
- Help families manage complicated bereavement
- Reduce COVID-19 recovery complications
- Communicate risk in the context of better therapeutics, vaccines
- Minimize vaccine hesitancy, especially given the rapid pace of vaccine development and testing



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