

New Directions in Assessing Program Quality and Implementation:

Updates from Two Measurement Development Projects

**Child Care Policy and Research Consortium
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Implementation Science: What is It?

- *Implementation science* is the study of how evidence-based or evidence-informed practices are translated, replicated, and scaled up in diverse settings in the “real world.”
- Common Research topics
 - Translation; diffusion of innovation
 - Adoption of evidence-based practices
 - Fidelity, dosage, and quality of service delivery
 - Replication in diverse contexts
 - Model adaptation and enhancement
 - **Organizational readiness, climate, and leadership**
 - **Supports for implementation; capacity building**

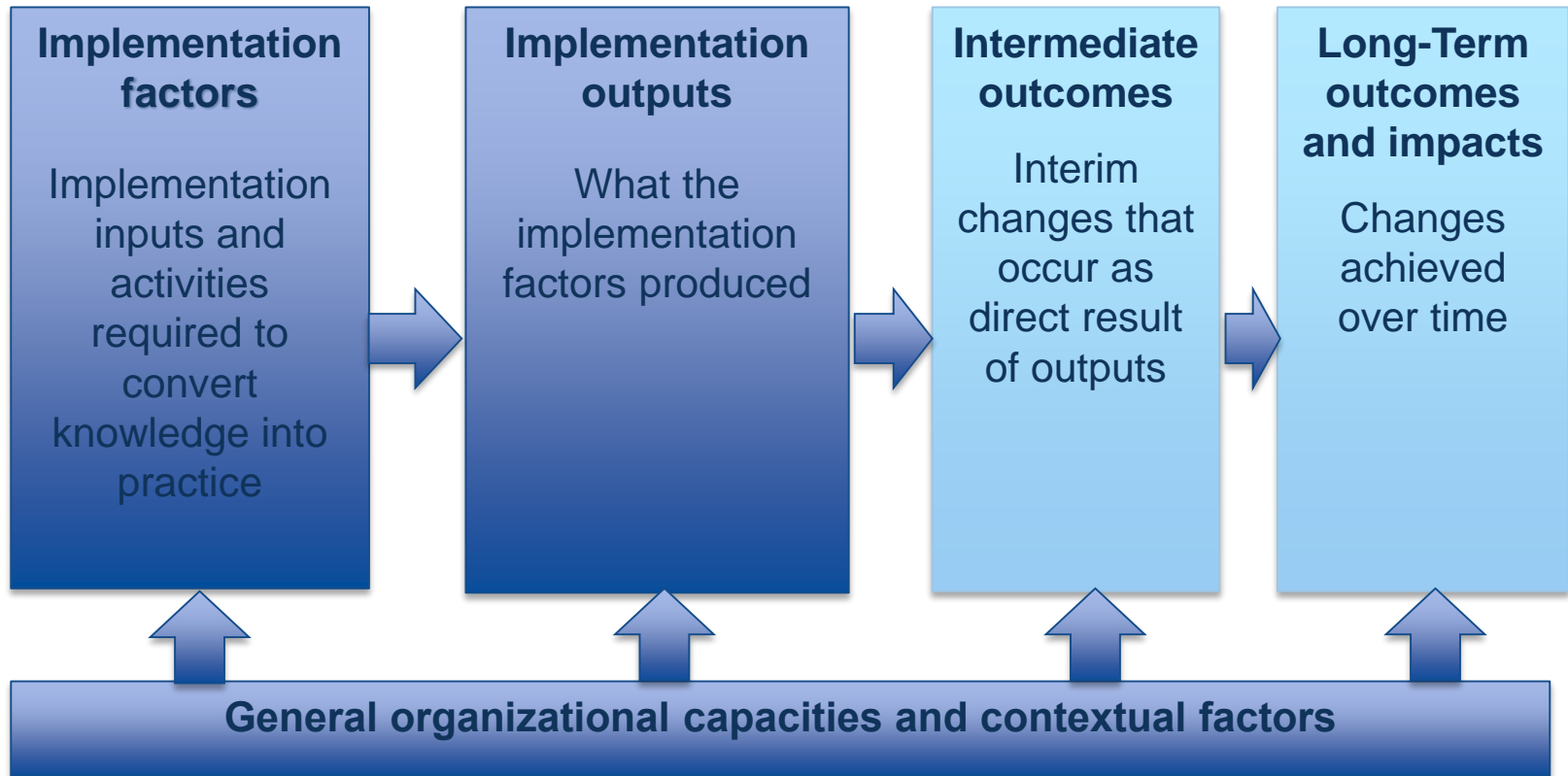
Implementation Science: Why Is It Important?

- Specifically, recent federal initiatives require the use of evidence-based programs, but the use of EBPs does not ensure positive outcomes.
 - Teen pregnancy prevention, home visiting, and education.
- More broadly, research is needed to understand the organizational and contextual factors that support high-quality implementation



Adapted from the National Implementation Research Network, FPG Child Development Institute, UNC, Chapel Hill. nirn.fpg.unc.edu

Using the Implementation Science Lens



Selected Implementation Science Resources

- **OPRE Implementation Work Group contacts**

- Ivelisse Martinez-Beck: ivelisse.martinezbeck@acf.hhs.gov
- Tamara Halle: thalle@childtrends.org

- **Seminal publications**

- Halle, T., Metz, A., & Martinez-Beck, I. (Eds.). (2013). *Applying implementation science in early childhood programs and systems*. Baltimore, MD: Brookes.
- Briefs
 - Downer, J. & Yazejian, N. (2013). *Measuring the quality and quantity of implementation in early childhood interventions* (OPRE Research Brief OPRE 2013-12). Washington, DC: Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.
 - Paulsell, D., Austin, A. M. B., & Lokteff, M. (2013). *Measuring implementation of early childhood interventions at multiple system levels* (OPRE Research Brief OPRE 2013-16). Washington, DC: Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.
 - Wasik, B. A., Mattera, S. K., Lloyd, C. M., & Boller, K. (2013). *Intervention dosage in early childhood care and education: It's complicated* (OPRE Research Brief OPRE 2013-15). Washington, DC: Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- Parenting Implementation Guidebook
 - Metz, A., Naoom, S.F., Halle, T., & Bartley, L. (2015). *An integrated stage-based framework for implementation of early childhood programs and systems* (OPRE Research Brief OPRE 201548). Washington, DC: Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.