

14th Annual Conference on the Science of D&I

Areas of Focus

Note: If your abstract deals with COVID-19, please submit to the track that is most relevant rather than defaulting to the public health track (e.g., if the abstract is about COVID disparities, submit to disparities). This year's planning committee is particularly interested in highlighting cross-sectoral work as well as work that advances health equity and tackles structural racism.

Behavioral Health

- Studies of novel strategies for de-implementation of unproven or outdated behavioral health interventions
- Innovative research approaches and platforms, including the integration of new technologies, data science, predictive analytics, and machine learning, to promote accessibility, adoption, uptake, implementation, sustainability, and scale up of evidence-based practices in behavioral health
- Studies of new, multi-level implementation strategies for behavioral health that ensure engagement of multiple and key stakeholders including patients, communities, decision-makers, providers, and healthcare organizations, including studies that examine the role of learning health systems in implementing or sustaining evidence-based practices in behavioral health
- Innovative implementation studies designed to improve behavioral health outcomes including studies focused on reducing disparities and/or targeting social or structural determinants of uptake of evidence-based practice in behavioral health for diverse, vulnerable or underserved populations in the US and around the globe
- Studies of COVID-19-related adaptations and innovations in the implementation and sustainability of evidence-based practices in behavioral health

Building the Future of D&I Science: Training, Infrastructure, and Emerging Research Areas

- Studies on innovative approaches for building capacity to train novice, intermediate, and advanced D&I researchers, practitioners, and intermediaries
- Studies on novel approaches for developing, maintaining, and sustaining research-practice partnerships
- Studies on novel data sources and analytic approaches for measuring implementation strategies using existing data sources (e.g., electronic health records)
- Studies on measuring, monitoring and analyzing implementation strategies over the course of an implementation trial with an eye towards mechanisms
- Studies of predictors, mediators, and strategies for de-implementation of ineffective and low-value practices
- Studies on ethical considerations and approaches for data sharing of implementation trials
- Studies of measurement, data collection, and analyses of implementation costs

Clinical Care Settings: Patient-Level Interventions

- Studies that develop and/or test implementation strategies that support D&I of effective patient-level interventions, especially those assessing which strategies work best with different contexts, patient groups, and diseases. Particular attention to the gray area between implementation strategies and the evidence-based practice is of interest.
- Studies that develop and/or test approaches to adapt patient-level interventions and/or implementation strategies to diverse contexts, and innovative methods for patients, consumers, and stakeholders throughout the adaptation process

- Studies that develop and/or test patient-facing implementation strategies. These strategies focus on ways to better engage patients in evidence-based practices and increase demand for them.
- Studies that develop and/or test health information technology-based patient-level interventions, and optimal strategies for implementing them; for example, mHealth, eHealth, patient portals, shared decision-making tools, and data visualization methods for patient-facing health information
- Innovative implementation studies designed to improve evidence-based practice implementation and health outcomes among diverse, vulnerable, or underserved patients who may receive care inequitably

Clinical Care Settings: System-Level Interventions

- Understanding how contextual health system-level facilitators and barriers affect implementation (or de-implementation) of interventions.
- Studies that address organizational infrastructure and characteristics (such as culture, workforce, capacity, interdisciplinary teams, and stakeholder engagement mechanisms) to support implementation of evidence.
- Studies informing health system leadership on how to make evidence-based decisions on selecting what interventions to implement, how to conduct the implementation, and whether the implementation was successful and sustainable, including timely economic evaluations of health system implementation activities.
- Studies examining how to efficiently adopt and adapt clinical practice at the system level in response to new evidence or guidelines
- Studies examining the dynamics of change, including rapid response to crises such as pandemics, during implementation of evidence-based interventions within health systems.
- Learning health system or embedded health care research at the system level
- Studies that develop and/or test digital technology or solutions supporting evidence-based care delivery and optimal strategies for implementing them; for example, clinical decision support (CDS), integrating data from patient-generated health data tools (e.g., mHealth, eHealth, patient portals), shared decision-making, and data visualization methods for clinician-facing health information).

Global Dissemination & Implementation Science

- Strengthening understanding of the role of context and mechanisms, mediators, and moderators influencing implementation outcomes in LMIC settings.
- Adapting or developing dissemination or implementation research frameworks and models and developing theory informed implementation strategies for diverse global settings
- Innovative research designs and methods for measurement of implementation outcomes and determinants in a variety of global settings
- Understanding scale up and sustainability in dissemination and implementation research and opportunities for reverse innovation: learning from resource constrained settings
- Studies exploring cost effectiveness, ethics, or equity of implementation strategies
- Implementation research applied to the COVID pandemic response in LMIC settings, vulnerable populations, or humanitarian contexts

Health Policy Dissemination & Implementation Science

- Studies of the implementation, sustainment, and/or de-implementation of local, state, or national public or private policies— including, but not limited to, legislation, administrative rules, practice guidelines promulgated by major professional societies, and policies implemented in health care delivery systems.

- Studies of dissemination strategies that aim to communicate research evidence in ways that promote its use in public and health care system policymaking. Formative studies that can inform the design of dissemination strategies for different policymaker and implementer policy audiences are also of interest.
- Rigorous evaluations of the implementation outcomes, as opposed to effectiveness outcomes, of policies. These could include studies of the de-implementation policies, unintended consequences of policy implementation, and economic dimensions of policy implementation.
- Studies exploring adaptation in policy implementation across different contexts—such as low-resourced environments and organizations that serve vulnerable populations
- Development of methods and measures focused on policy dissemination and implementation, including studies assessing the applicability and adaptability of clinical dissemination and implementation strategies for policy contexts.
- Studies assessing the effects of politics and broad socio-cultural forces on health policy development and implementation, with a focus on how these forces influence the extent to which policies are aligned with research evidence.

Models, Measures, and Methods

- Application of measures and methods to capture the dynamic evolution of interventions across time and context
- Application of measures and methods to capture multisectoral approaches to dissemination and implementation
- Studies demonstrating the application of simulation and statistical modeling techniques to implementation research questions
- Empirical tests of integrative conceptual models or theories of (de)implementation processes
- Research on dissemination or implementation methods or measurement that attempt to generalize across clinical conditions and settings
- Empirical tests of measures, methods, or models to predict or explain sustainability of implemented practices
- Studies that demonstrate rigorous application of mixed methods approaches (i.e., integration of qualitative and quantitative methods)

Prevention and Public Health

- Address barriers to preventive health services and identify potential multilevel and/or multisectoral strategies to dealing with emerging public health issues (e.g., COVID-19, climate change), and the implications for dissemination and implementation science.
- Advance implementation designs to focus on structural, multilevel and/or multisectoral factors in prevention, public health, and community settings.
- Methods to study the dissemination, scale-up, and sustainability of evidence-based prevention and mitigation interventions in communities and populations, especially those that are underserved.
- Develop and test transformative implementation strategies (e.g., telehealth technologies) to improve the reach, accessibility, adoption or adaptation, and implementation of evidence-based practices in prevention, mitigation, and public health, particularly in underserved community settings.
- Improve implementation strategies that ensure engagement of patients, decision-makers, healthcare organizations, community members and other key stakeholders in prevention, mitigation, and public health programs to increase health equity.

Promoting Health Equity and Eliminating Disparities

- Strategies to adapt existing evidence-based interventions to be culturally appropriate while maintaining fidelity

- Strategies to implement evidence-based practices and guideline-concordant care in low-resource healthcare settings
- Community, system, or population level implementation to promote health equity (e.g., within health care systems, education systems, community-wide environmental interventions, and policy changes), including addressing barriers and facilitators of implementation, including structural racism and discrimination or other structural factors
- Sustainability within settings and systems to promote health equity and eliminate disparities
- Dissemination and implementation of evidence-based interventions to ameliorate the negative consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic on the health of vulnerable populations