The Blueprint: Paradigm Project Updates

At a Glance...

- In a panel at the 2021 Annual Research Meeting, members of the Paradigm Project’s Learning Community and Steering Council shared their experience in using human-centered design to disrupt the field of health services research (HSR).

- In a second post, AcademyHealth Vice President Michael Gluck reflects on lessons from the Paradigm Project and how AcademyHealth will use this work as the basis of a social movement to create real and lasting change in HSR.

- **New on the AcademyHealth blog:**
  - External advisors have submitted their report and recommendations to AcademyHealth to inform the development of a sustainable, action-oriented strategy to address diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) in the field. Please provide your feedback on the report [here](#) by August 25.
  - In this [post](#), Harlan Krumholz and Joseph Ross, co-founders of medRxiv, describe the benefits of preprints and highlight features of their preprint server for health sciences launched in June 2019.
  - Implementation teams can leverage user-centered design to make health interventions more engaging and effective for both patient participants and health care staff.
  - Robert Dubois of the National Pharmaceutical Council outlines the state of social need interventions research and provides recommendations to improve study design quality.
  - This [post](#) highlights recent findings from a PCORI-funded project on how to increase the numbers and diversity of research participants by returning value to them and incorporating digital tools to sustainably maximize impact and scale of these efforts.

- In other news:
Sandro Galea, a member of the Paradigm Project Steering Council, and Catherine Ettman suggest three lenses and three approaches that can frame an expansion of health services research.

The COVID-19 pandemic led to greater recognition of the importance of patient engagement in health research and innovation to eliminate barriers in its implementation.

An article highlights the emerging ethos of cultural rigor in the use of critical appraisal tools in research.

A study unearths ways to improve the accessibility of public and patient involvement in health research for those with marginalized identities.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, preprint abstract lexicon has changed to increasingly express over-promotion and caution.

This study highlights the significance of broad dissemination of research findings to community members and the crucial role of the community in the translation process.

A Nature news feature describes the rise, rhetoric, and impact of interdisciplinary research.

Latest Paradigm Project Updates

A July blog post reflects on the Paradigm Project through the eyes of four individuals who have been intimately involved in this process.

In a panel titled “Testing Innovations to Improve the Practice and Application of HSR: Lessons from the Paradigm Project” at the 2021 Annual Research Meeting, Paradigm Project volunteers described innovations to act on three major challenges facing the HSR field. The challenges include:

1. Diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI);
2. Racial bias in data; and
3. Meaningful partnerships with community-based organizations (CBOs).

Panelists also reflected on the unique insights and achievements made possible by the use of human-centered design as the primary approach to the work. They shared their lessons learned for building a movement to disrupt the status quo in health services research (HSR) and challenged the field to leverage Paradigm Project practices to spur innovation in order to advance more timely, impactful research.

In a follow-up post, AcademyHealth Vice President Michael Gluck reflects on lessons learned over the last two years of the Paradigm Project and the ways these innovations are only the start of our efforts to create real and lasting change in how we do, communicate, and use HSR.

He identifies five lessons from our Paradigm work that have important implications for
how AcademyHealth proceeds:

1. Health services researchers are motivated to make a difference for others.
2. Change is possible.
3. We don't have to reinvent the wheel.
4. New ideas come from new tools.
5. A diverse, equitable and inclusive field is key to all other changes.