A NEW FRONTIER IN IMPLEMENTATION SCIENCE

Demonstrating the impact of implementation science and its training presents new frontiers for the field, but operationalizing this impact in challenging implementation science training programs has typically focused on demonstrating traditional metrics (e.g., results and grants and publications after participation) rather than the broader impacts of participants’ research projects. The Translational Science Benefits Model (TSBM) offers a new approach for evaluating and disseminating the impact of research.

The Translational Science Benefits Model

Developed in 2017, the TSBM identifies 2Ts (translational benefits) that demonstrate the impact of science in the broader community across four domains:

- Clinical: the adoption and implementation of new tools and procedures in clinical settings
- Community: the enhancement of healthcare of population and community well-being
- Economic: commercial or financial improvements
- Policy: policy development with the policy process or formal adoption into policies, legislation, or governmental standards

Accompanying the TSBM Framework, the Training for Impact Toolkit includes a set of tools to pilot, track, and demonstrate impact within these domains.

IMPLEMENTATION SCIENTISTS TO MEASURE IMPACT

The TSBM and tools provide a structure and language to train implementation scientists to prioritize and promote translational impact. In the classroom, the Translational Science Benefits Model (TSBM) training for the IRI cohort included three phases:

1. **TSBM Training**
   - TSBM experts introduced the fellows to the TSBM and discussed the importance of planning for impact.
   - Fellows were briefly introduced to the Translating for Impact Toolkit.

2. **Impact 101 Workshop**
   - TSBM experts introduced the fellows to the TSBM and discussed the importance of planning for impact.
   - Fellows were briefly introduced to the Translating for Impact Toolkit.

3. **TSBM Impact Workshop**
   - TSBM experts introduced the fellows to the TSBM and discussed the importance of planning for impact.
   - Fellows were briefly introduced to the Translating for Impact Toolkit.

**TSBM Impact CASE STUDIES**

**Developing Communication Strategies to Reduce Adipogenic Stigma**
Beth McGinty, PhD
The Sigma Lab developed effective messages to communicate with healthcare professionals, legislators, and policymakers to reduce adipogenic stigma.

**Preventing Youth Suicide and Injury by implementing a Secure Firearm Storage Program in Pediatric Primary Care**
Rinad Beidas, PhD
The A.F.C. Ensures Program focused on preventing firearm injuries by using pediatricians and parents, and the program helps families understand effective ways to increase firearm storage security in pediatric primary care.

**TSBM Impact Training Components**
- Impact 101 Workshop
  - TSBM experts introduced the fellows to the TSBM and discussed the importance of planning for impact.
  - Fellows were briefly introduced to the Translating for Impact Toolkit.

**FINDINGS**

The case studies showcase the impact of the IRI training cohort’s work, and the institute itself as a mentored network. The case studies demonstrated clinical, community, economic, and policy benefits of IRI training that analysis of publications, grants applications, or survey data would not have revealed.

- Across all case studies, the IRI fellows identified 10 translational benefits across 7 clinical, 7 community, and 10 potential benefits spanning all four TSBM domains.
- The TSBM helped participants conceptualize their impact, think more broadly about the benefits of their research, and develop a language for talking about their project impacts with non-academic audiences.

**IMPLICATIONS FOR D&I**

Training the next generation of clinical scientists to prioritize and promote translational impact in their work now is essential for the productivity and impacts of implementation science. Including TSBM impact training in an implementation science training institute revealed three lessons for the field:

- Integrating impact into implementation science training is important to build researchers’ understanding of downstream impact, especially early in their career.
- Early exposure to impact training will help streamline consideration of translational impact, complementing traditional metrics such as publications and grants in the evaluation of individuals, projects, and programs.
- Building a culture of impact training should include training on impact throughout the research process. Participants identified marketing benefits and challenges, especially for projects in early development.
- Building targets to track progress towards the goals of impact training to help researchers conceptualize impact before communicating about project results.

**TSBM training can help move implementation science training toward achieving and demonstrating impact.**

**The Translating for Impact Toolkit is now available for researchers to pilot test. Visit our website at translationalsciencebenefits.wustl.edu to download the toolkit.**