Doing Research That Matters: Considerations for Excellence in Research Design and Implementation

Welcome!

- Overview and introductions

- To participate:
  - Use the chat to ask questions or comment during presentations.
  - After presentations, use the chat or raise your hand and unmute yourself when called on.

Research vs. Evaluation vs. QI, What's the Difference?

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Comparison/control groups	No	No	Sometimes	Often, preferred

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Impact on practice/policy	Inform internal practice through design of interventions for improvement	Change organization/ program practices, immediately	Improve program design/ implementation; offer lessons for other programs	Inform standards, practices, and policy with objective evidence

What makes research different

- Requires IRB review, even if to determine that a study is "not human subjects research."
- Findings are expected to be reproducible.
- Unlike other types of inquiry, may not always include community members – but doing so is a recommended best practice
- Intended to yield generalizable knowledge, sometimes by testing a theory or hypotheses
- Because findings apply beyond the population studied, research has potential for greater impact on policy and practice.
- However, research can take longer to conduct, publish, and measurement of impact of research can be more difficult.

Resource

Rural Health Information Hub (RHIhub)

- **Conducting Rural Health Research, Needs Assessment, and Program Evaluation**

- https://www.ruralhealthinfo.org/topics/rural-health-research-assessment-evaluation

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