Applying a systems lens to identify challenges, enablers and barriers to the GACD scale-up interventions

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Background

- The GACD Upscaling call currently has 24 funded project (>30 anticipated)
- Focussed on determining how, when or whether programmes can be scaled up
- This provides a unique opportunity to learn more about the science of scale-up in varying contexts
- The initial idea was put forward to the GACD in July 2018
- The Steering Group first met in November 2018
- Some progress on summarising Frameworks for Scaling Up and summary of definitions of Scaling Up and Scaling Out
Global Aim

• To identify the challenges, barriers and enablers to upscaling interventions for hypertension and diabetes in a series of upscaling programmes
Methods

To systematically record, across projects, and over time:
- What is the scalable unit? Definition of scalability?
- What is the context? Consideration of equity, feasibility, vulnerable groups, etc
- Engagement timing, and who with?
- How did the communication occur?
- How consistent were the stakeholders throughout the project?
- Perceptions of barriers, how have processes been adapted ....

Mixed methods – flexible approach
- Structured questions at 2-3 time points – beginning, end and possibly midway
- Interviews of PIs and key stakeholders – two time points
  - Can delegate to a member of the study team
  - If you wish, share your protocol and we can extract most of the data needed
Approach

• Co-production with PIs

Different to other WGs: will need funding to continue (in-kind and dollars)
  • Already one PhD student
  • One part-time research assistant
  • Time commitment (in-kind) to:
    • Develop resources
    • Train team members to collect data
    • Contribute to collecting data
  • Provide in-kind funding for more students, etc.
  • Plan is to apply for funding as appropriate calls become available
Potential Outputs/Opportunities – Co-Production with PIs

Short-term:
• Record and compare approaches to scale-up
• Better understand flexibility, communication, etc.

Long-term:
• Determine how the programmes have influenced the formulation, or adaptation, of guidelines
• Develop (?) a framework for scale-up that incorporates the essential concepts, including case studies about what works and what doesn’t
• Delivery of at least one publication for each phase of this process
• Other products, with a focus on utility/usefulness

Other opportunities
• Networking
• Opportunity to learn from each other to tackle complex problems
Invitation

Open invitation to participate in the Steering Group

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