From research to policy and practice – how to guarantee that our research findings don’t get lost in translation

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Shared functions but contextualized content and delivery - the SMART2D intervention to prevent and control type 2 diabetes in three different disadvantaged settings

Funded by EC H2020 & GACD Diabetes for 2015-2018
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Facilitated collaboration between teams

Team Uganda
Researchers & Stakeholders

Team Sweden
Researchers & Stakeholders

Team South Africa
Researchers & Stakeholders

Intervention facilitation team
Integrated care model

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1. Participatory, appreciative approach with shared goals

• South Africa: Western Cape DoH; NGOs that employ CHWs; health facility staff; and patients at risk / living with T2DM,

• Uganda: the Non-Communicable Diseases Control Program at the Ministry of Health, the District Health Teams in Iganga and Mayuge Districts, health facility staff, and patients with chronic conditions that participated in the intervention development process.

• Sweden: Stockholm County Council, primary care centers, local citizens offices and NGOs
Intervention Development Process:

Core strategies based on situational analysis:
- ToC and topic guide
- Decision on core strategies and elements
- Validation with stakeholders
- Synthesis
- Data collection and preliminary analysis

Formulation of generic tools for strategies:
- Identifying mediators from situational analysis
- Formulation of generic tools
- Mapping functions and methods

Contextualization of elements and tools:
- Translating generic strategies and tools to fit each setting
- Final program
- Designing training for implementation
- Piloting / Adapting

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Common goals led to common core strategies

• Facility Strategies 1 & 2:
  • Organization of Care Process
  • Strengthen Patient Role in Self-Management

• Community Strategy 1, 2 & 3:
  • Community Mobilization
  • Strengthen Support from the Environment
  • Community Extension (linkage btw health care and community)
2. Standardization of functions = **Active** ingredients of change in the intervention are the same across all sites while content and delivery are highly contextualized
CONTENT IS KING

BUT

CONTEXT IS GOD

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SOUTH AFRICA
- Link between CHW and nurse
- 9 CHW-led peer support group meetings
- CHW as a CC through home visits

UCANDA
- Link between peer leader & nurse
- 9 peer-led support group meetings
- Family member or neighbor as CC

SWEDEN
- Inspiration meetings: Participants, community & health care actors
- 9 individual telehealth coaching sessions
- Family member or friend as a CC

COMMUNITY SUPPORT COMPONENTS
Generic Version

Peer Support Program
Care Companion (CC)

Link between community and facility
3. Capacity building and ongoing interest in those who are implementing the program