Two Pragmatic Tools for "Tracking" the Implementation & Sustainment Facilitation Strategy

Sheila V. Patel (<u>svpatel@rti.org</u>), Brittany Zulkiewicz, James H. Ford II, Mathew R. Roosa, Mark Zehner, and Bryan R. Garner

THE NEED FOR TRACKING

The Implementation & Sustainment Facilitation (ISF) Strategy has been found to be effective and cost-effective for improving both implementation effectiveness (i.e., the consistency and quality of intervention implementation) and intervention effectiveness (i.e., the extent to which the intervention improves client outcomes).^{1,2} Beyond the importance of "specifying" implementation strategies is the importance of "tracking" implementation strategies.³ Careful and detailed tracking of implementation strategies is needed to replicate the ISF Strategy's impact more broadly, and in other settings and for other interventions. This poster provides an overview of two pragmatic tools for tracking the ISF Strategy.

TOOL DEVELOPMENT

The SAT2HIV-II Project is a cluster-randomized type 3 hybrid trial testing the impact of the ISF Strategy on helping HIV service organizations and their staff implement a motivational interviewing-based brief intervention to reduce substance misuse. Carried forward from the first SAT2HIV Project, the *ISF Strategy Workbook* is a pragmatic tool for tracking adherence to the ISF Strategy by "action targets" (e.g., the staff at HIV service organizations receiving the ISF Strategy). The *ISF* Strategy Tracker was developed as part of the SAT2HIV-II Project to be a pragmatic tool for: (a) tracking ISF Strategy adherence by the "action targets" as well as (b) tracking ISF Strategy fidelity by the "actor" (e.g., the ISF Facilitator). Both tools were developed for use in familiar platforms (i.e., Microsoft Excel, Forms, and Teams) to easily monitor summary information.

TOOL UTILITY

The *ISF Strategy Workbook* is a tool the ISF Strategy Facilitator uses before, during, and after each ISF Strategy meeting for planning, guiding, and documenting implementation support. Data from each organization's ISF Strategy Workbook is automatically pulled into a supervision tool called the ISF Strategy Workbook Data & Reports File. The *ISF Strategy Tracker* is a complementary tool the ISF Strategy Facilitator uses after each meeting. For quality assurance, there is some overlap in information collected via the ISF Strategy Workbook. However, it also collects data regarding fidelity to the ISF Strategy. Data is automatically pulled into a supervision tool called the ISF Strategy Tracker Data & Reports File, which also facilitates impact analysis.

REFERENCES

Garner BR, Gotham HJ, Chaple M et al. The implementation and sustainment facilitation strategy improved implementation effectiveness and intervention effectiveness: Results from a cluster-randomized, type 2 hybrid trial. *Implementation Research and Practice* (2020). https://doi.org/10.1177/2633489520948073
Hinde, J. M., Garner, B. R., Watson, C. J., Ramanan, R., Ball, E. L., & Tueller, S. J. "The implementation & sustainment facilitation (ISF) strategy: Cost and cost-effectiveness results from a 39-site cluster randomized trial integrating substance use services in AIDS services organizations" (AW04). *Addiction Science & Clinical Practice*, 15(SUPPL 2) (2020).
Bunger, A.C., Powell, B.J., Robertson, H.A. et al. Tracking implementation strategies: a description of a practical approach and early findings. *Health Research Policy and Systems* 15, 15 (2017). https://doi.org/10.1186/s12961-017-0175-y

In using these two tools with 12 HIV service organizations, we found **high levels of agreement** (94%+) regarding the "tracking" of the ISF Strategy.



Creation of analytic files to examine relationships between ISF Strategy adherence/fidelity and other key implementation outcomes and client outcomes

FUNDING

This work is supported by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA): R01DA038146 (PI Garner) and R01DA052294 (PI Garner).

