Evaluation in social care: A forward look

Presented, on behalf of MRC Hubs for Trials Methodology Research, by:

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The slides are available below.

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https://youtu.be/Ry_5dnCQfJ4
Evaluation in Social Care: A forward look

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Social Care Evaluation

- Increasing recognition of importance
- Increased funding
- Increasing call for evidence-based interventions
- Need to consider the applied methodological challenges
Contextual complexity

1. Multi-sectorial, multi-agency

2. Delivered by LA, third sector organisations, charities and businesses

3. Policy separation between adult and child social care
+ 25 universities with strong trials methodology expertise funding PhD student cohort
1. What should we measure?

- 7 domains identified, only 5 had appropriate measures

2. How should we measure it and who from?
1. Who holds the data?
Recruitment

• Prisoners
• Looked after children
• People with addiction

What are the pathways and who should be consenting?
Protecting participants:
- What is a ‘harm’ in this setting?
- How do you decide if it could be related to the intervention?
- How do you decide if it is expected?
Public Involvement in the Proxy Consent Project

The Proxy Consent project explored family members and friends’ experiences of being involved in decisions about research made on behalf of an adult who lacks decision-making capabilities.

Summary

1. Project planning
   During the planning stage, the group provided invaluable insights into their experiences of caring for and advocating for people with impaired capacity. This meant that the project was designed to reflect the integration of decisions about research in the complex reality of caring relationships.

2. Developing information sheets
   The group helped to make sure that the information given to family members considering taking part in the project was accessible and that they had enough information to make an informed decision.

3. Making sense of the findings
   Using their own experiences, the group connected the research findings to the wider context of caring for others, and so helped ‘make sense’ of the data and interpretation.

4. Refining content and format
   The content and format changed considerably over time, with the group reviewing each version along the way until the final version was agreed.

5. Reporting back to participants
   It is important to provide information back to participants to let them know what the study found. The PPI group helped to create the summary for participants.

6. Phrasing interview questions
   The members of the group helped to ensure that the questions were sensitively worded when interviewing family members and that they could be clearly understood.

7. Accessibility and acceptability
   It was important that the tool was accessible for families and acceptable. The group agreed a draft version in helping to choose the language, look of the information and layout.

Participant and Public Involvement

College of Biomedical and Life Sciences
Where can we learn from?

1. Complex Interventions Development & Evaluation

2. Developing Partnerships with non-trial researchers
Homeless populations

PHACT TRIAL: PREVENTING HOMELESSNESS AND IMPROVING HEALTH FOR PEOPLE LEAVING PRISON

People leaving prison face multiple challenges reintegrating into society and are at high risk of homelessness and poor mental and physical health.

Study aims to reduce risk of Covid-19 to people experiencing homelessness

8 September 2020

In the first study of its kind, Prof Jim Lewsey and Dr Manuela Deidda with a team from the Universities of Glasgow, Cardiff, Heriot-Watt and Glyndwr will pilot a randomised trial to see whether a housing-led ‘critical time intervention’ (CTI) works in preventing homelessness and improving health in a population of male prison leavers.

Dr Rebecca Cannings-John

Prof James White

Prof Peter Mackie
Intellectual disability and autism

Dr Rachel McNamara

Prof Richard Hastings

Prof Peter Langdon

**BEAMS-ID:** Behavioural interventions to treat anxiety in adults with autism and moderate to severe intellectual disabilities. **NIHR HTA**

**SPIRIT:** Specific phobias in children with learning disabilities: An adaptation and feasibility study. **NIHR HTA**

**STORM:** The STanding up fOR Myself psychosocial group intervention for young people and adults with intellectual disabilities. **NIHR PHR**

**Zippy's Friends:** A randomised feasibility study of a school-based emotional literacy programme for children with intellectual disabilities. **NIHR PHR**

**E-PAtS:** Early Positive Approaches to Support (for families of young children with intellectual disability). **NIHR HTA**
Children's Social Care

Dr Yvonne Moriarty

Dr David Westlake

PLOS ONE

Confidence in Care

Hyder mewn Gofal

Family VOICE

StUDY PROTOCOL

The SWIS trial: Protocol of a pragmatic cluster randomised controlled trial of school based social work

1 CASCADE, Cardiff University, Cardiff, Wales, 2 Centre for Trials Research, Cardiff University, Cardiff, Wales, 3 Nuffield Department of primary care, University of Oxford, Oxford, England, United Kingdom
What has surprised me?

- Requests for use of data
- Investigations
- Support for staff
Extend the remit of all groups to include social care?
Add new working groups?
Extend membership?

How do we support and develop careers of TMs in social care?

*What would you like to see?*
‘Everyone, regardless of who they are, where they live, or what they do deserves the best health and care and we will provide the evidence to make that happen’