



AMETHIST

AMETHIST@Penn:

Achieving
Maternal Equity
and Transforming
Health through
Implementation
Science and
Training

AMETHIST@Penn IMPROVE Centers of Excellence Baseline Survey Results

Dates of Survey Completion: October 30–November 28, 2023

In order to begin to understand and serve the needs of the ten selected IMPROVE Centers of Excellence, AMETHIST@Penn conducted a baseline survey, distributed to the contact PIs.

Each site was asked to complete the survey only once, utilizing information from their teams as needed.

Survey topics included:

- 1) Implementation science design, methods, and analysis plans
- 2) Incorporation of equity, community, and stakeholder engagement
- 3) Policy, dissemination, and communication plans
- 4) Training and capacity building opportunities and needs



DESIGN, METHODS, AND ANALYSIS



9 of 10 Centers of Excellence (CoEs) have already incorporated implementation science-based theories, frameworks, or models into their work.

Such frameworks include well-established models to drive research plans or intervention methods, such as the Consolidated Framework for Implementation Research (CFIR), or the COM-B (Capability, Opportunity, Motivation, and Behavior) model.

FIGURE 1. METHODOLOGIES ALREADY IN USE OR PLANNING TO BE IN USE

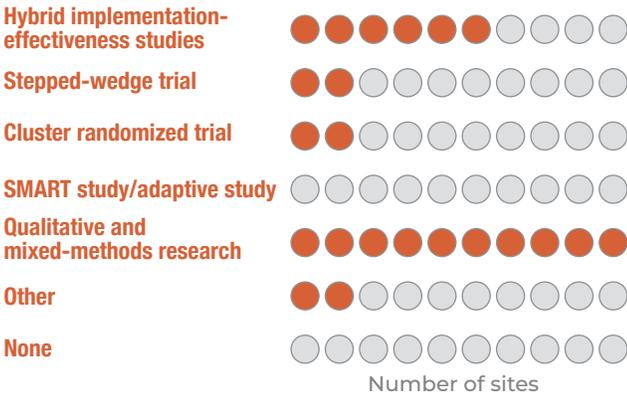
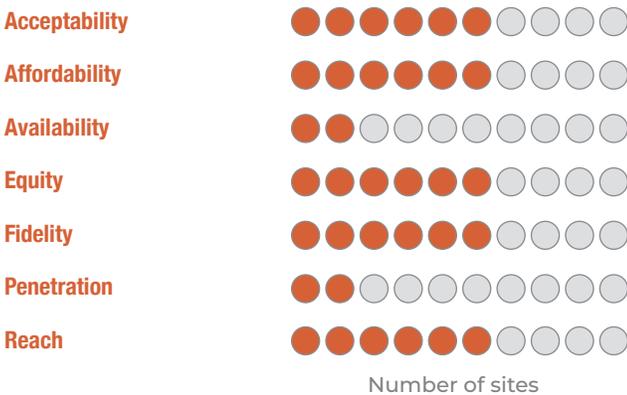


FIGURE 2. ANTICIPATED IMPLEMENTATION OUTCOMES TO BE EVALUATED



Sites also anticipate using methods consultants for a variety of needs, with the most common anticipated areas as qualitative comparative analysis (6/10), implementation cost (5/10), informatics and statistical analysis related to

CoEs have established usage of a variety of implementation science methodologies in their current and planned research projects.

FIGURE 3. SELF-REPORTED STRONG OR SOMEWHAT STRONG IN...

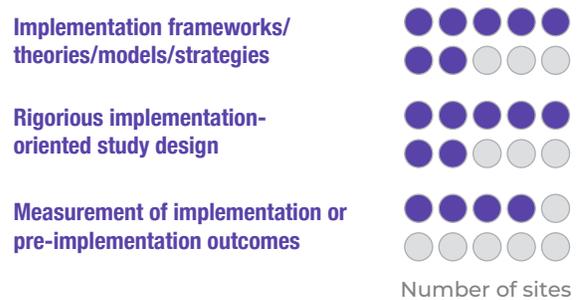
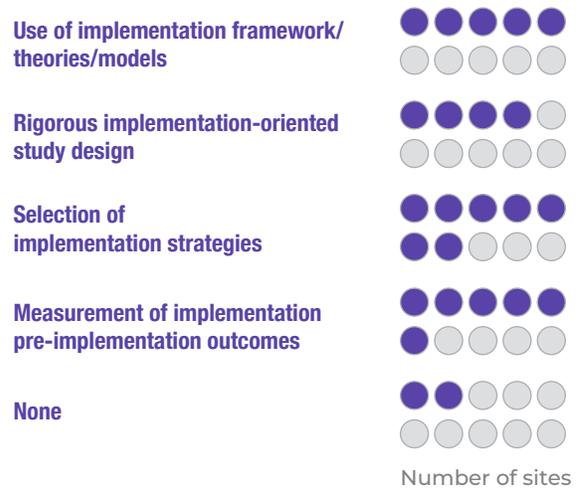


FIGURE 4. ANTICIPATED AMETHIST@PENN NEEDS WITH A DESIGN PERSPECTIVE



implementation (5/10), organizational behavior (5/10), and women's health innovation (5/10), as well as maternal health implementation consultants for postpartum care (6/10) and mental health (6/10).



EQUITY, COMMUNITY, AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT



The CoEs have each already engaged with a number of stakeholder and community partners pertinent to their anticipated research.

Notable partners across sites include local clinics, community health centers, and Public Health Departments, alongside project-specific stakeholders for each site. However, many sites also noted challenges with engaging partners (7/10), such as policymakers and local officials, or deciding who to engage with next.

The CoEs' aim to incorporate stakeholders across various phases of research, with all sites indicating interest in stakeholder engagement once study activities begin.

FIGURE 5. PHASES OF RESEARCH TO INCORPORATE STAKEHOLDERS

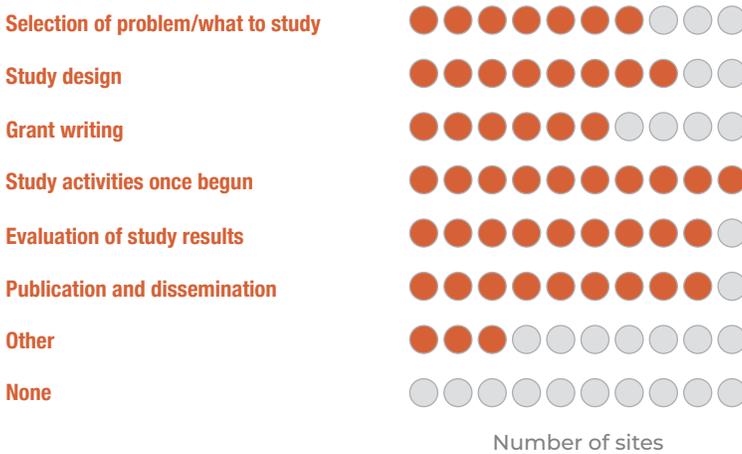


FIGURE 7. ANTICIPATED AREAS FOR USING EQUITY CONSULTANTS



FIGURE 6. SELF-REPORTED STRONG OR SOMEWHAT STRONG IN...

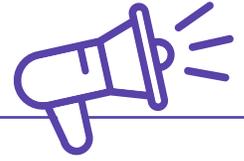


The CoEs have planned using several different equity-focused theories/frameworks, such as intersectionality, Critical Race Theory, and the Health Equity Implementation Framework. The CoEs' plan to use AMETHIST@Penn resources to strengthen several areas, especially addressing structural inequalities and equity-focused data collection and analysis.

In addition to these resources, other equity-based needs requested from AMETHIST include an understanding of local historical, social and political influences on equity and insight into successfully introducing structural interventions at a community or state level.



POLICY, DISSEMINATION, AND COMMUNICATION



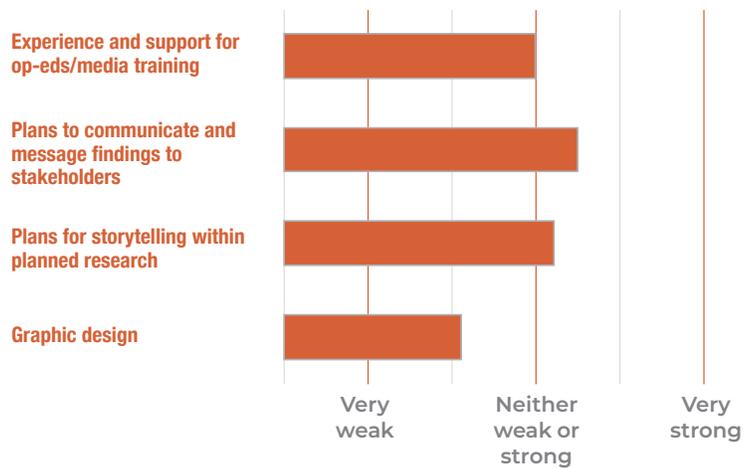
The CoEs reported various levels of strength in components of dissemination and communication.

On average, more sites reported feeling somewhat or very strong in plans to communicate and message findings to stakeholders (5/10), while few sites reported strengths in experience with and support for op-eds/media training (3/10), plans for storytelling (3/10), or graphic design (0/10).

When asked about AMETHIST@Penn hub resources that they are planning to use related to policy/communication, nearly all sites (9/10) reported interest in communicating and messaging findings to stakeholders, storytelling within planned research, and graphic design.

Another 8 sites reported plans to utilize support for op-eds/media training. Other potential policy or communication-based needs delineated included communicating with legislators, government staff, and community organizers, writing policy briefs, and editorial guidance in conveying findings concisely to policymakers.

FIGURE 8. AVERAGE LEVEL OF STRENGTH IN COMMUNICATIONS



TRAINING AND CAPACITY BUILDING

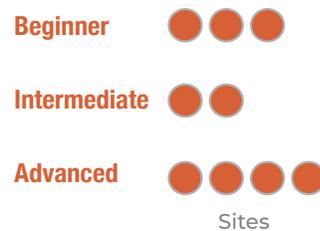


The CoEs expressed varying levels of implementation science expertise, with some reporting a strong, advanced foundation in the field.

Currently, 6 of 10 sites indicated having an existing or planned implementation science training program. Of these sites, some indicated having a formal certificate or degree program in implementation science, while others expressed having staff with topical expertise or options for coursework or research opportunities, but no formal program.

For AMETHIST@Penn monthly seminars, the CoEs suggested a diverse range of topics, such as hybrid/multi-level intervention studies, publishing in implementation science, research methodologies, REDCap/data management, and implementation science framework/theories/models.

FIGURE 9. IMPLEMENTATION SCIENCE EXPERTISE



Alongside the monthly seminars, sites also expressed a need for guidance on writing implementation science grants, training on collaborating with long-distance partners, and training on designing implementation science studies.