



AMETHIST

AMETHIST@Penn:
Achieving Maternal
Empowerment
and Transforming
Health through
Implementation
Science and
Training

AMETHIST@Penn IMPROVE Centers of Excellence Year 2 Follow-up Survey Results

Dates of Survey Completion: 11/18/2024–2/3/2025

10 Centers of Excellence (CoEs) completed the AMETHIST-NIH Centers of Excellence Year 2 Follow-Up Survey

Research in maternal health disparities can be complex in nature, and continued engagement across AMETHIST Cores can play a key role in supporting the IMPROVE CoEs towards their project goals. The AMETHIST Hub is well-equipped to offer support across the domains of design, community engagement, training, policy, and communication, and looks forward to continuing its collaboration with CoEs through consultations, forums, monthly workshops, seminars, virtual and in-person site visits, community engagement forums, op-ed development, messaging strategies, and more.

Since Year 1, CoEs have illustrated thorough engagement across cores, leaning into support where necessary and incorporating new tools into ongoing research projects. AMETHIST anticipates it will remain an integral resource to support sites in their implementation science work and will continue to build on its existing relationships across the AMETHIST and IMPROVE networks.

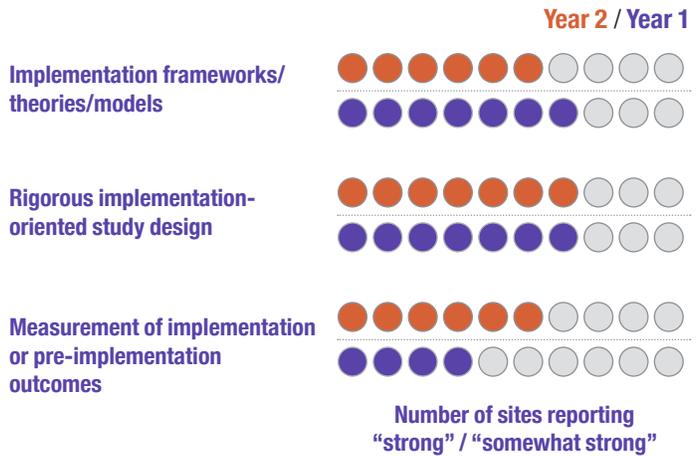


DESIGN, METHODS, AND ANALYSIS

Centers of Excellence (CoEs) actively participated in design forums and scheduled consultations using the Consultation Request Form made available in the Data, Innovation, and Collaboration portal.

CoEs had the opportunity to ask detailed questions about Type 1 hybrid effectiveness trials, reach and acceptability (as implementation outcomes), and qualitative methods. As a result of the support provided by AMETHIST@Penn implementation scientists, most CoEs experienced growth in Year 2 in their measurement of implementation or pre-implementation outcomes, with two CoEs reporting stronger in this area than at baseline [Figure 1]. The AMETHIST@Penn Hub anticipates that continued participation in consultations and forums will encourage CoEs to increase their capacity for implementation-driven research design.

FIGURE 1. CAPACITY TO UTILIZE IMPLEMENTATION SCIENCE METHODOLOGIES

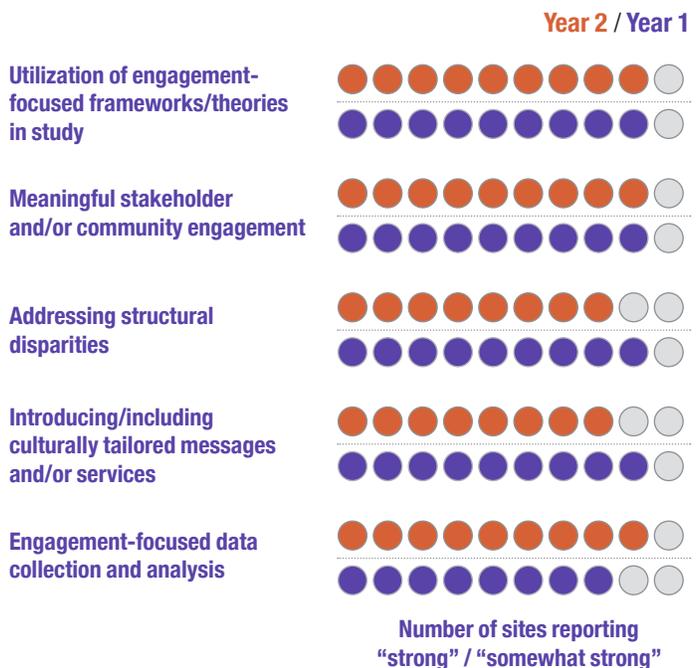


COMMUNITY AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

CoEs report varying strengths across community engagement activities in Year 2.

Nine of 10 Centers expressed their engagement-focused data collection and analysis practices are a strength [Figure 2]. Participation in Engagement Enhancement Collaborative (EEC) meetings, with the opportunity for collaboration among other sites, has been an effective opportunity for CoEs to revisit, revise, and even improve their current engagement strategies.

FIGURE 2. CAPACITY TO INCORPORATE ENGAGEMENT-FOCUSED RESEARCH PRACTICES



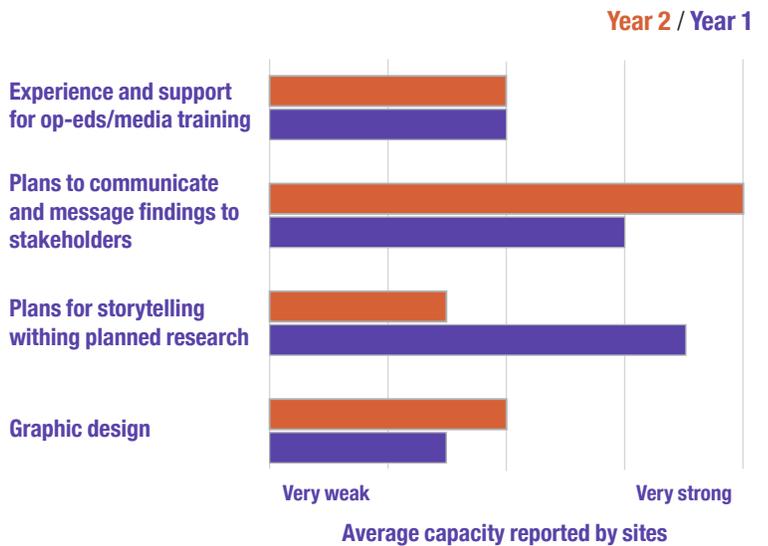


POLICY, DISSEMINATION, AND COMMUNICATION

In Year 2, CoEs report the most strength in their plans to communicate and message findings to stakeholders.

CoEs also indicate they feel neither weak nor strong about their graphic design communications in Year 2 [Figure 3]. In response, the Policy Core will continue to provide support with skills-building in messaging and media training throughout the next year. Additionally for Year 2, the Core will host its first Policy Day focused on postpartum care policies and research, as both have been topics of interest to address. The goal of this annual event will be to have legislators communicate their findings on maternal health successes, challenges, and outcomes to the AMETHIST network and the lay public. This information can assist CoEs in their legislative outreach strategies, inform their knowledge of gaps within the maternal health political landscape, and strengthen their dissemination of maternal health research findings to various audiences.

FIGURE 3. CAPACITY FOR THE UTILIZATION OF POLICY-FOCUSED COMMUNICATION METHODS



TRAINING AND CAPACITY BUILDING

CoEs indicate varying levels of expertise around implementation science in Year 2.

Four of 10 sites indicate ‘Intermediate’ levels of expertise about their current implementation knowledge [Figure 4]. Over the past year, CoE’s attendance and participation in monthly training seminars, workshops, and forums has been consistent and the AMETHIST@Penn Hub will continue to leverage such events as critical learning spaces, in addition to other Core-led activities. Beyond involvement in monthly webinars, trainees have noted that their participation in events such as the Penn Implementation Science Institute (ISI) and the Maternal Health Implementation Science Physician Research Scholar program are both valuable and integral to their academic development.

FIGURE 4. EXPERTISE IN IMPLEMENTATION SCIENCE CONCEPTS

