

Lessons learned from doing implementation research: Results from an international survey

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Recording available here:

<https://wustl.adobeconnect.com/pv8gjhzt031i/>

Background

- *The Handbook on Implementation Science*



Methods

What are some of the key lessons that you've learned doing implementation research?

What do you think too few implementation researchers (or implementation researchers in training) know about conducting implementation research?

Methods

- Administration: Qualtrics
- Recruitment
 - Twitter
 - Email

(Will conduct interviews early 2019)

Results

(20 people responded one or both questions)

Stakeholder engagement

Co-production

PARTICIPATORY
SYSTEMIC
ACTION RESEARCH
APPROACH



Diversity in experiential, disciplinary and methodological expertise

COMPLEX ISSUES
PART OF WIDER
SYSTEM



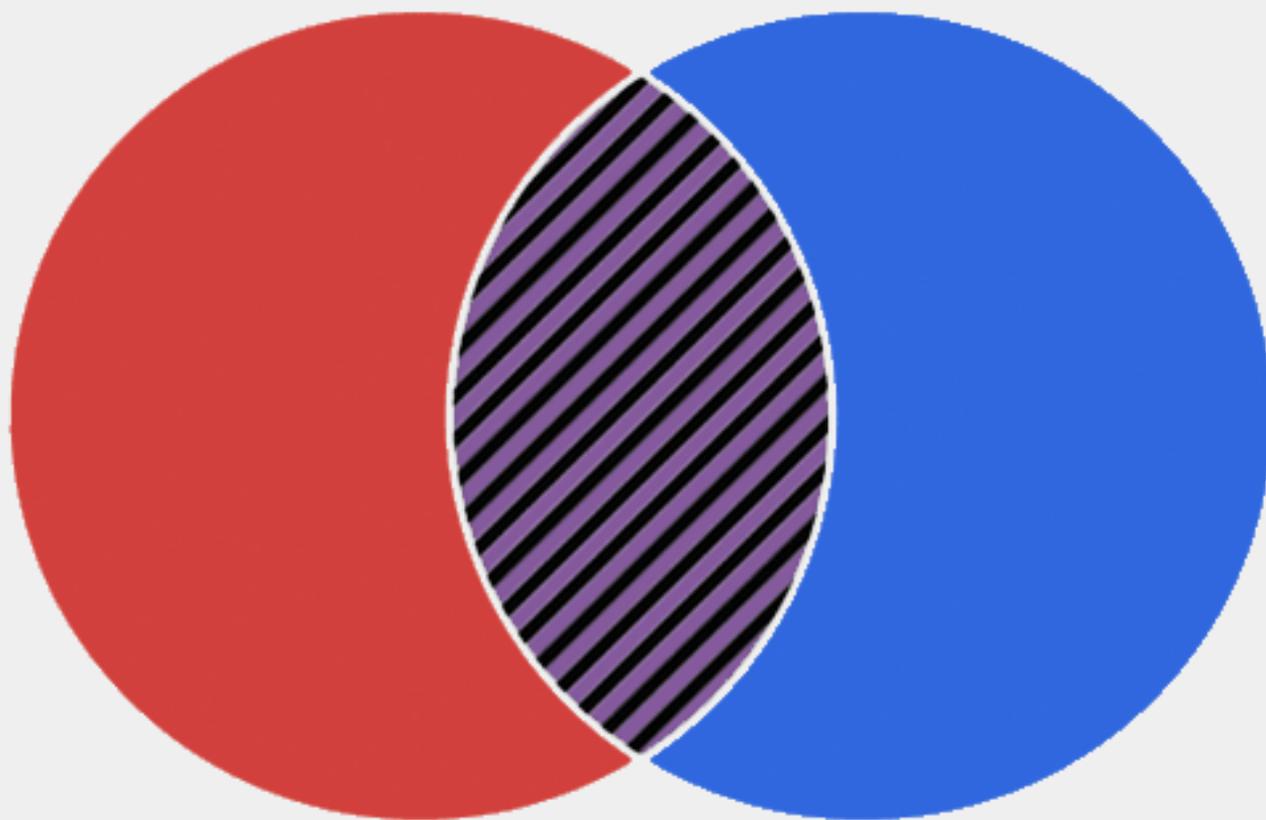
CLEARER
UNDERSTANDING
OF THE
CONDITIONS
FOR
VOLUNTEERING
PRACTICES

Power relations



FINDINGS

Mixed methods



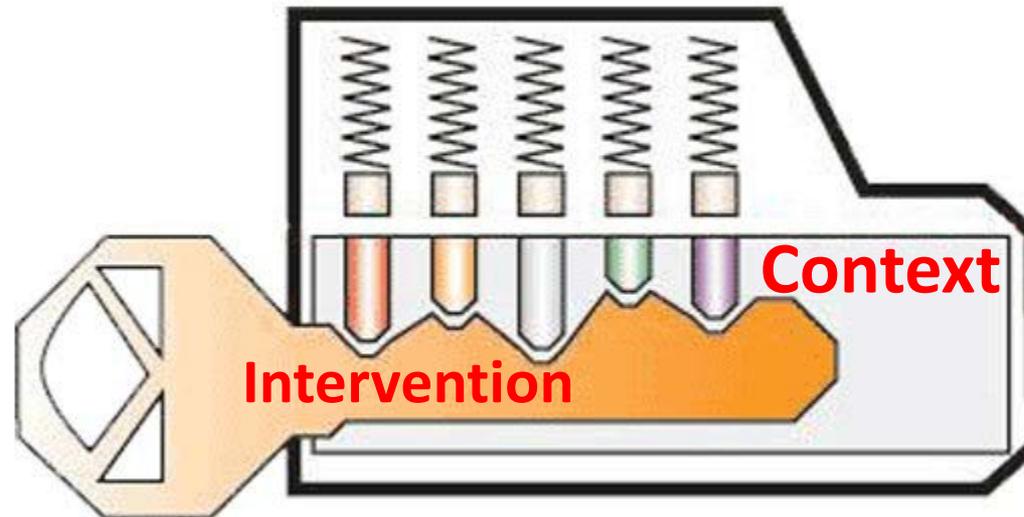
Theories, models, and frameworks



Leadership and practice

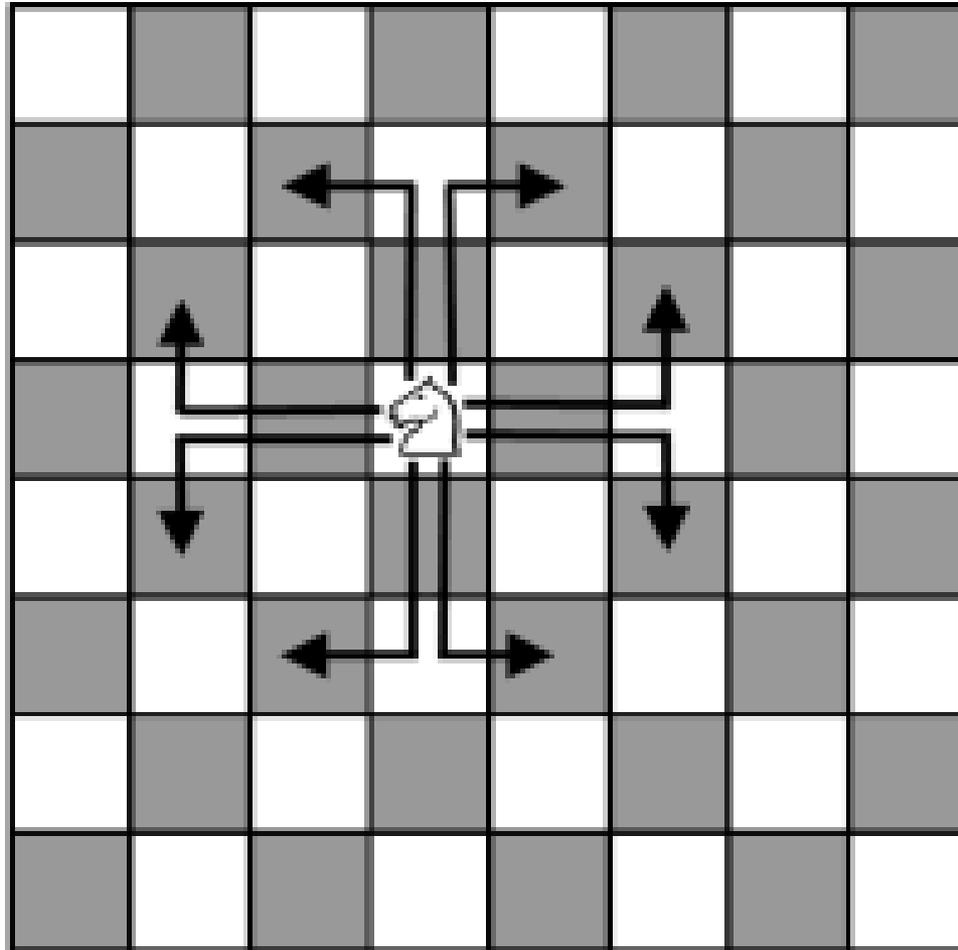
- “I find it very valuable to step out of the researcher role and get into a practitioner role once in a while, to really experience myself how difficult it is to apply the evidence-based knowledge...”
- “It is extremely hard to make change in a clinic setting unless it is mandated from the top down.”
- Resistance to evidence-based management
- “...most health clinicians see knowledge translation as a special, separate skills when in fact their professional competencies give them a closely congruent skill set already.”

Understanding and tailoring strategies to the context



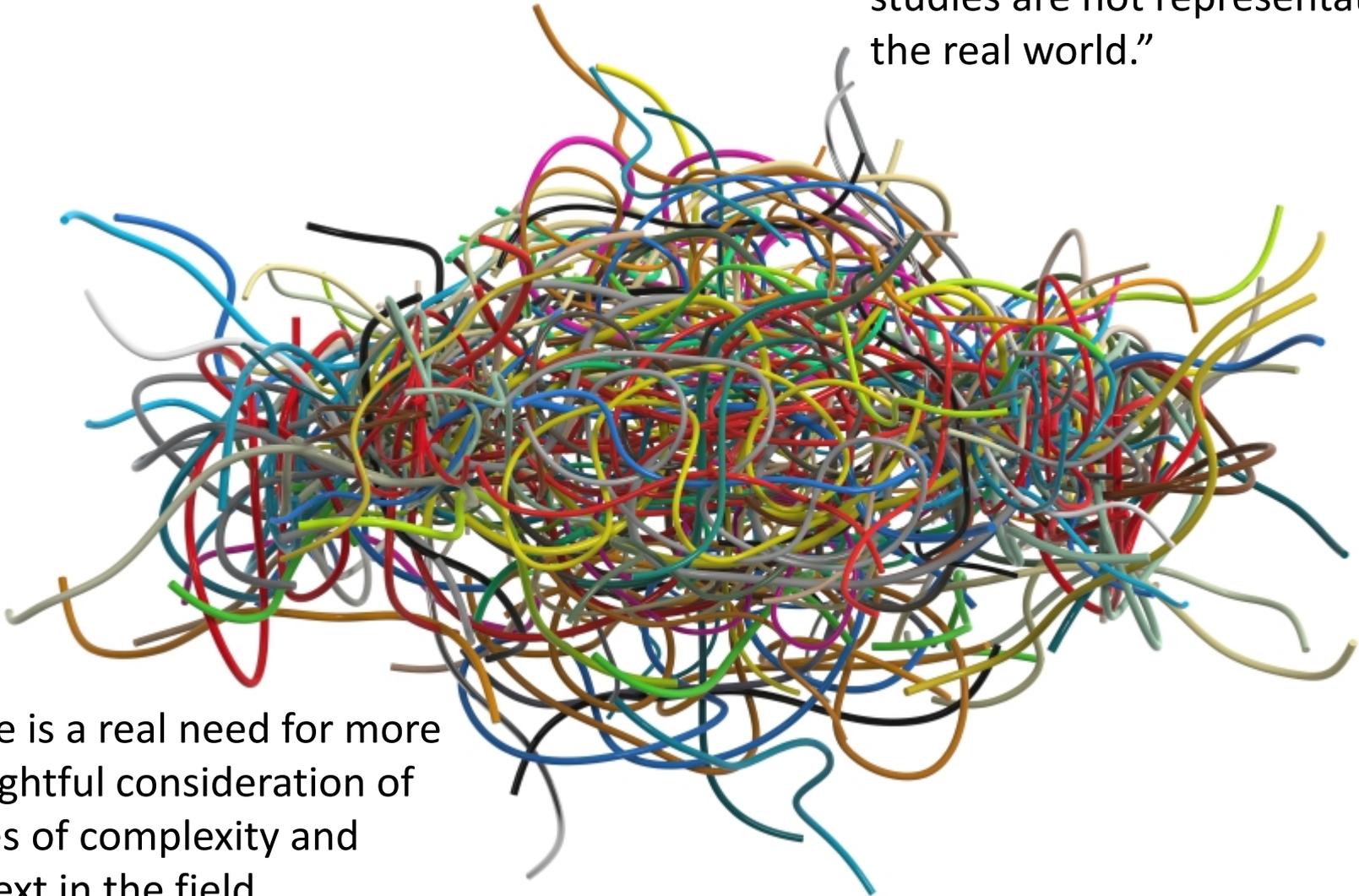
“...we need to spend time understanding context...”

Sustainability



Complexity

“...messiness needs to be embraced. tightly controlled studies are not representative of the real world.”



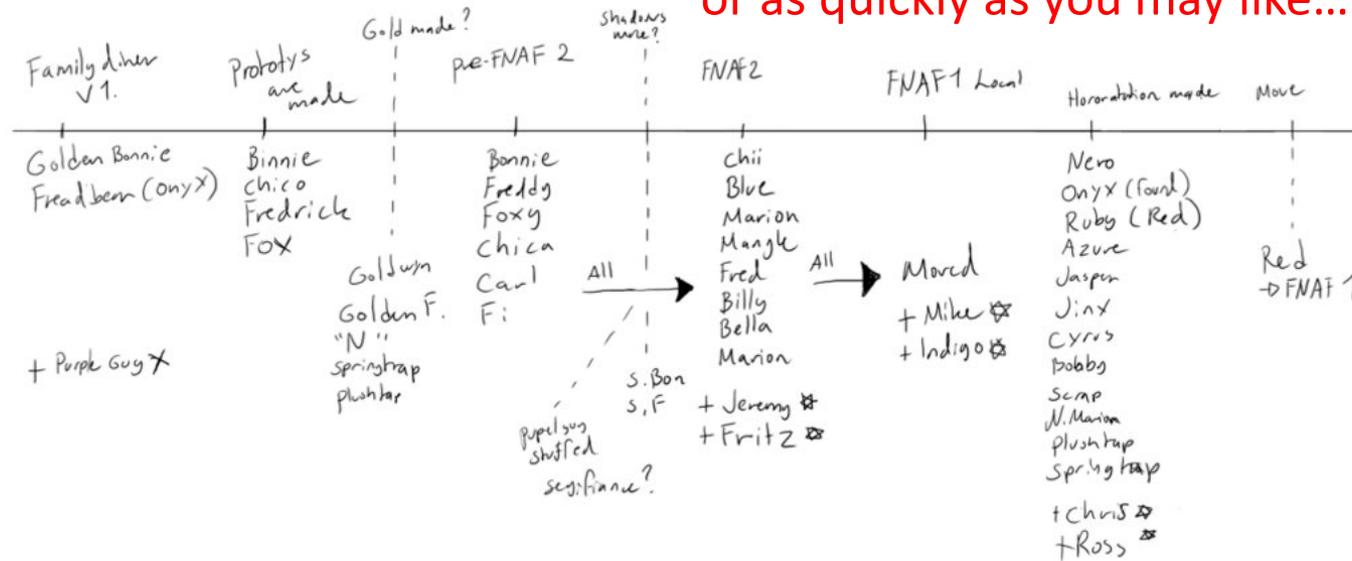
There is a real need for more thoughtful consideration of issues of complexity and context in the field.

Patience

- “[W]orking with operational partners can be trying on the patience and requires a lot of negotiation, problem-solving, and communication.”
- [It is] difficult...to capture all the important aspects - because we mostly study complex interventions to be implemented in complex settings. It seems as [though] each study finds some, but not all aspects... [I]t's like laying a jigsaw puzzle. You need a lot of patience.”

Timelines

Accept that not all of your target audience will be on board immediately or as quickly as you may like...



Finding → Fixed

...everything takes longer than I'd planned for it to take. I think it is important to adopt a long-term perspective, anticipate learning along the way, and not necessarily succeeding in other ways at each step.



The value of problems

- “Problems are golden - they provide the new hypotheses for solutions”
- “IS doesn’t go as planned, but some good comes of it.”

Closing remarks

Lessons Learned from a Knowledge Broker RCT

Maureen Dobbins, RN, PhD

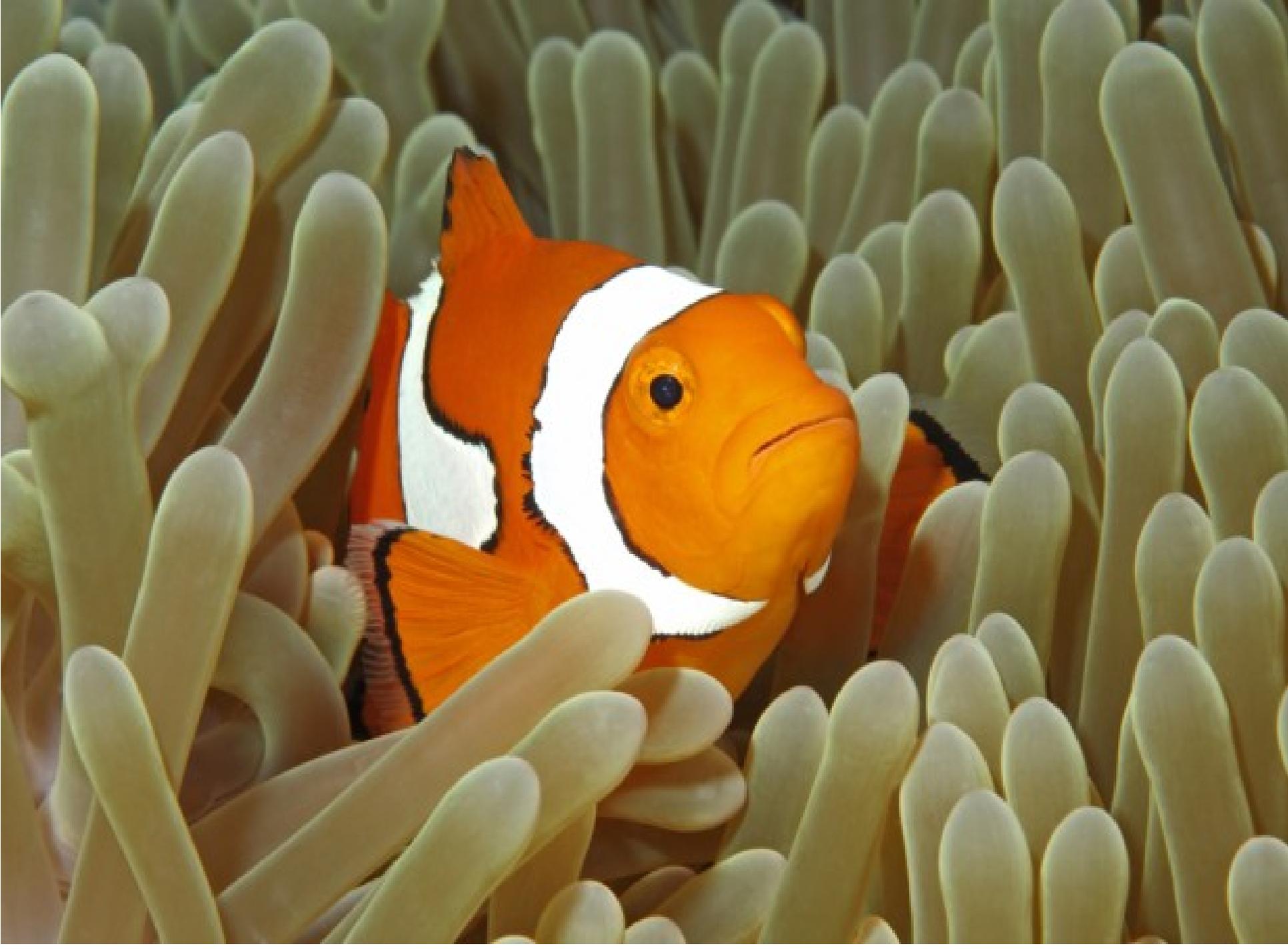
MT-DIRC Webinar: Lessons Learned in
D&I Research
October 19, 2018

Objectives

Reflecting on what I learned from the KB trial I will:

- discuss what I learned
- what I would do again (if given the chance)
- what I haven't done again (and wont)

KB = knowledge broker





Key Messages (starting at the end)

Intervention

Measurement

Design



The Trial

- RCT of public health departments
- Three arm:
 - HealthEvidence
 - Tailored messages
 - KB services
- 1 year intervention
- Self-reported use of evidence, # of programs pre-post consistent with evidence

The Intervention

- Time
 - Intensity
 - Participants per organization
 - Decision maker involvement in planning
- 



Measurement (needle in a hay stack)

- **Quantitative**

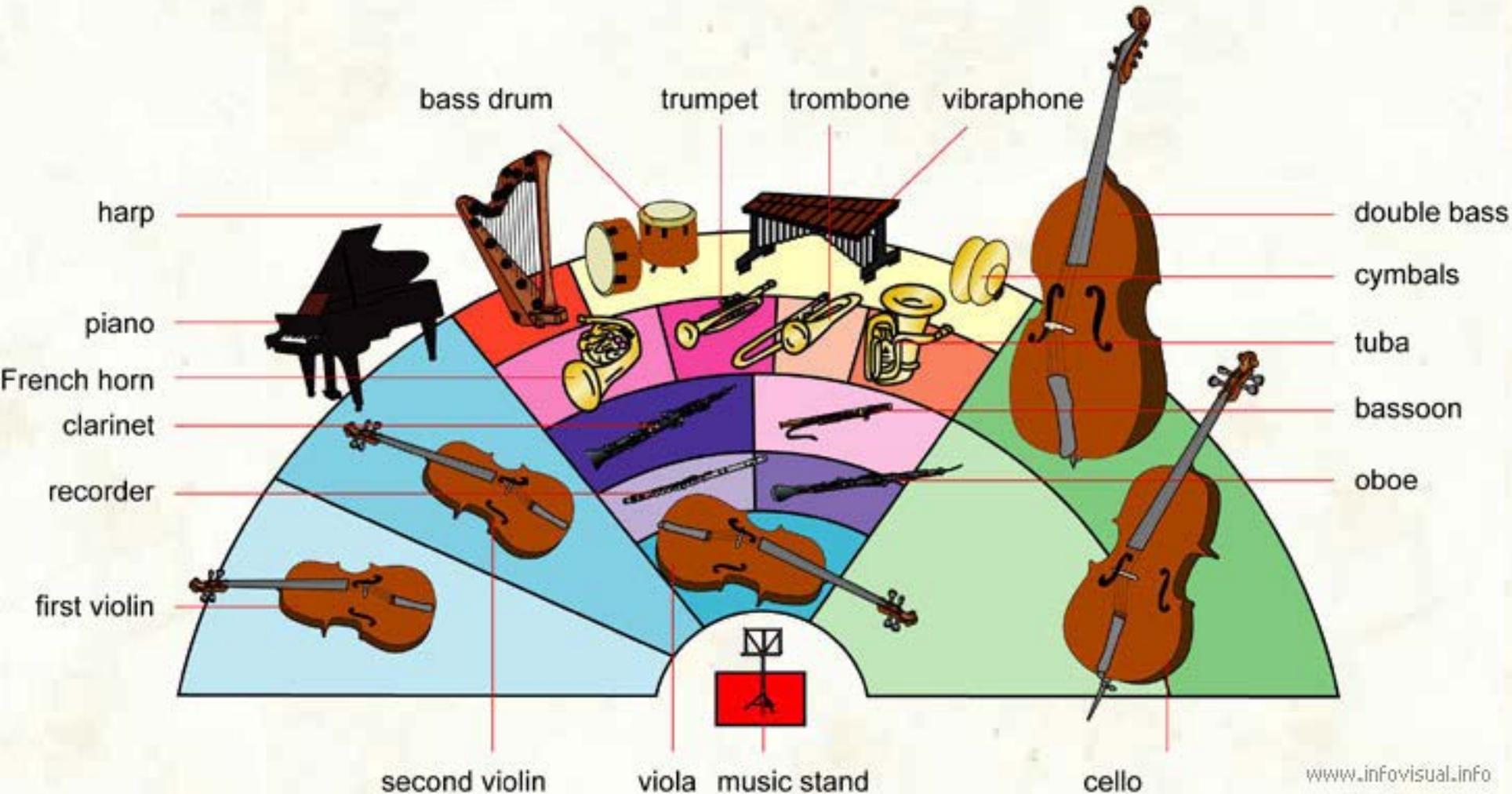
- self-reported use (ceiling effect)
- # of policies (discrepancies between self-report and org documents)
- the Aha moment

- **Qualitative**

- Contradicted quant data

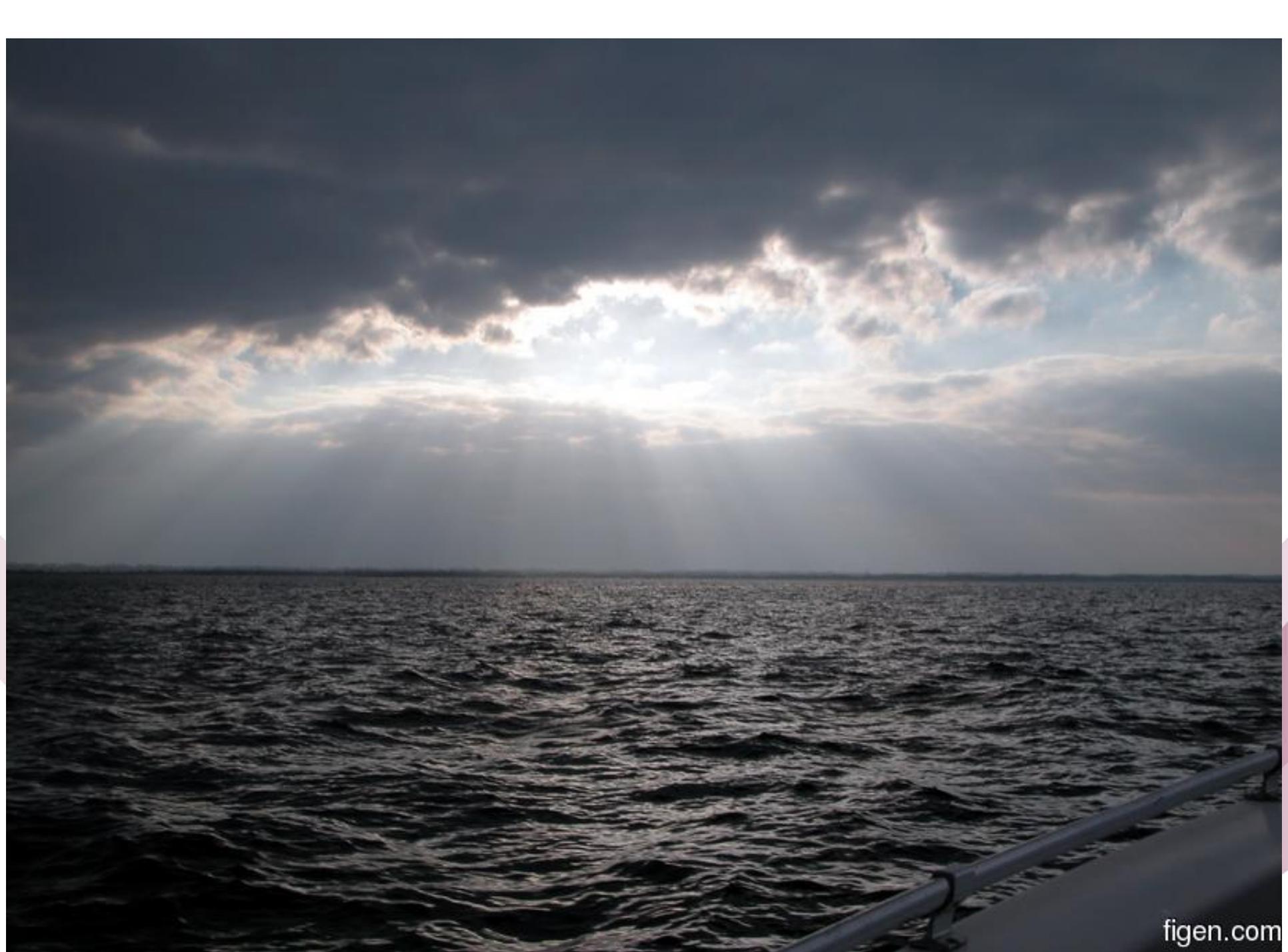
Complexities of Measurement

SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA



Design

- x RCT
- Case studies
 - ++ involvement of decision makers in shaping all aspects of the project/study



For more information about the National Collaborating Centre for Methods and Tools:

NCCMT website www.nccmt.ca

Contact: info@nccmt.ca



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