

Planning and Evaluation Questions for Initiatives Intended to Produce Public Health Impact*

Below you will find questions to help you in the planning, delivery, and evaluation of your program or policy initiative. Questions in bold are recommended if you have limited time or resources to collect these data.

We do not expect you to be able to answer all of these questions, or that all of them to apply to our specific project. You need to decide which of the ‘dimensions or issues’ below are most important for your initiative (we use ‘initiative’ below to refer to both policies and programs). Thinking through these issues though will help you to increase the chances that your initiative will be successful, and sustained if successful.

Please see RE-AIM.org for tips (hyperlinked) and RE-AIM.org and <http://cufamilymedicine.org/evaluationhub/> for other potentially useful information.

Dimension or Issue	Key questions (ones in bold most important to consider)	Probes and follow-up questions
Where will initiative be conducted? (Adoption)	What settings or organizational types are you targeting (e.g., schools, workplaces, clinics, community settings or organizations)? * How many of these settings and organizations do you estimate will use the program or participate in your policy? Who will deliver the program or policy (actually do the work) and do they have the skills and time? (e.g., teachers, human resource staff, clinicians, lay health educators, volunteers)?	What are key characteristics of the settings you want to participate? Who might be interested in this initiative and Why? How will settings hear about this? What were characteristics of settings that did not participate (e.g., location, facilities, finances, personnel) What external or environmental supports or threats are there? How will you know if organizations used the initiative? Who can help gather information about this? What are the expertise or characteristics of those (e.g., staff, volunteers) you are wanting to deliver the intervention?

<p>Who will take part? (Reach)</p>	<p>* How many of these persons (staff or adoption agents) do you estimate will use the program or particpate in your policy?</p> <p>Who will the initiative appeal to? (End-users of the initiative (e.g., patients, students, employees, kids, parents, community members)</p> <p>How and where will you reach them?</p> <p>How will you know if those who participated are representative of the intended beneficiaries (target population)?</p>	<p>What characteristics may differ from the invited staff and those who participate (e.g., education, time in position, training, capacity)?</p> <p>Whom do you plan to reach in your initiative? Define the intended beneficiaries (target population(s).</p> <p>How will you advertise and promote the program? Who needs to approve these methods? How will know if you reached them and who participated?</p> <p>What methods will you use to attract underserved populatons and focus on health inequities? What information is available to determine that the sample is representative of the target audience?</p>
<p>How consistently will you deliver the program or policy? (Implementation)</p>	<p>How will the initative be delivered, including adjustments and adaptations?</p> <p>To what extent will the key aspects of the program or policy be delivered as intended?</p> <p>What adaptations or modifications do you think will be necessary to help implement the initiative to fit your different settings? How will you know what adaptations or modifications were made during the program?</p>	<p>What are the key elements of the intiative that must be delivered to be successful?</p> <p>How will you assess program delivery (self-report, audit, checklists)? Describe the feasibility of these methods. What are likely implementation challenges you will need to overcome?</p> <p>Who can help you keep track of modifications or adjustments made?</p>

What are some of the possible obstacles to consistent implementation?

Are there competing projects or programs to consider?

What costs and resources (including time and burden, not just money) need to be considered?

Are these costs and resources available and reasonable to ask for (high enough priority?)

What Results? (Effectiveness)

What are the most important outcomes you expect to see? (e.g., more physical activity, weight loss, better quality of life, less bullying, less absenteeism, less drug use; better medication adherence; improved quality of life)

What is the targeted individual-level change?
How will you measure these changes?
Who will care about the outcomes?
How will you share these outcomes?

How likely is it that your initiative will achieve its key outcomes?

What are the biggest threats to seeing the outcomes you want?

Will your program or policy be effective for those most in need?

How will your program or policy need to be adapted to benefit these individuals?

What unintended consequences or outcomes might there be?

What has gone wrong in other similar initiatives?

When will your initiative need to be renewed? (Sustainability or Maintenance)

What will happen over the long-term?

Consider for both Individual beneficiaries and Settings (e.g., support longer term benefits to children, employees, patients, students; ongoing infrastructure and policy)

Can organizations sustain the initiative over time and are there plans to leave trained staff in place?

What infrastructure supports will be needed to sustain the initiative?
Is there an infrastructure and funding that will remain?
How will this initiative align with current and future policies and reimbursement; revenue streams?

How likely is your initiative to produce lasting effects for individual participants?

How will you be able to follow your initiative for an extended period of time?

How will you get the word out about your product and lessons learned?

What are likely modifications or adaptations that will need to be made to sustain the initiative over time (e.g. lower cost, different staff, reduced intensity, different settings)?

How will individuals be delivered key program components over time? Will they stay in contact?

How will you continue to track success and provide ongoing feedback? “How’s it working for you?”

What easy to understand materials can you produce to tell others about your lessons learned?

How can you track the major changes made over time?

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