

ARCH Lab Implementation Science Projects



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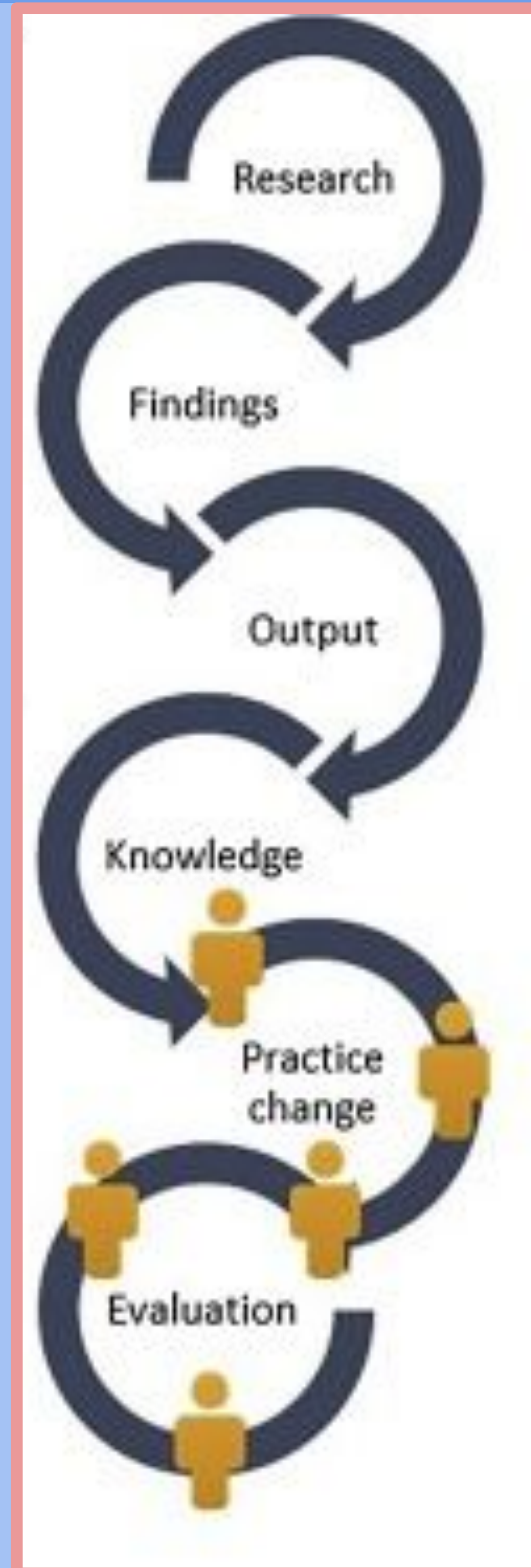


Background

- The **Accelerating Research-to-Practice in Community Health (ARCH) lab** is a team of expert scientists, trainees, and staff who are passionate about improving the health and mental health of underserved and underrepresented populations through implementation science.
 - ARCH Lab drives the science of implementation forward using rigorous empirical methods and a community-partnered approach to improve health and mental health in Philadelphia, the United States, and globally.
 - This poster summarizes two out of the four projects that are led by the ARCH lab team.
- **Implementation science (IS)** is the study of methods to promote the usage of evidence-based practices (EBPs) into standard care. EBPs are practices that are backed by research findings.
 - It takes about 17 years for EBPs to routinely be utilized in the healthcare system and only half of them are ever used.¹
 - IS serves to close this gap between research findings and their usage in routine care.
- IS research not only focuses on the client, but also the clinicians, organizations, and other individuals who may be involved.
- The research teams are interdisciplinary, ranging from psychologists to health economists to sociologists to anthropologists, etc.¹

Philadelphia Alliance for Child Trauma Services

- The **Philadelphia Alliance for Child Trauma Services (PACTS)** focuses on the implementation of trauma-focused cognitive behavioral therapy (TF-CBT), an EBP, while also increasing the screenings and assessments of children in varying healthcare settings.
- Quantitative data measuring child functioning and clinicians' attitudes toward EBPs were collected, in addition to semi-structured interviews.
 - I sent out the weekly emails to the clinicians, inquiring about potential new clients who are eligible to participate in the study.
- The objective is to evaluate the effectiveness and the outcomes of the trauma-focused EBP.
- This project is funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).



Adopted from Steel, A., Rapport, F., & Adams, J. (2018).



Firearm Safety Check

- The **Firearm Safety Check (FSC) Pilot** project focuses on the implementation of the Safety Check intervention.
 - This is an evidence-based intervention that has the objective of implementing firearm means restrictions in pediatric primary care.
 - Safety Check includes: pediatricians screening parents for firearms, providing counseling around gun safety, and providing gunlocks.
- There is an association between safe firearm storage and decreased risk for suicide among youth.²
 - The goal is to use this intervention to reduce death by suicide.
- The aim of this project includes adapting the Safety Check to make it more effective, while gathering views and opinions on it.
 - Quantitative surveys and qualitative interviews from parents with and without firearms were collected.
 - I inputted data and participants' contact information from the quantitative surveys into REDCap forms so that other members working on this project could follow up with them.
- This project is funded by the National Institute of Health (NIH).

Conclusion

- Though these projects are still in progress and no definitive conclusions have been drawn, I have gained a better understanding of the various research aspects and the different ways in which projects can be conducted.
- Working in the ARCH lab has introduced me to implementation science and showed me the importance implementation research can have on the lives of others, especially children.
- **I would like to thank Dr. Rinad Beidas, the ARCH lab members, and PURM for allowing me to work in this lab and participate in these projects.**

References

¹ Bauer, M.S., Damschroder, L., Hagedorn, H. et al. An introduction to implementation science for the non-specialist. *BMC Psychol* 3, 32 (2015). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s40359-015-0089-9>

² Jager-Hyman S, Benjamin Wolk C, Ahmedani BK, et al. Perspectives from firearm stakeholders on firearm safety promotion in pediatric primary care as a suicide prevention strategy: a qualitative study. *J Behav Med*. 2019;42(4):691-701. doi:10.1007/s10865-019-00074-9

Steel, A., Rapport, F., & Adams, J. (2018). Towards an implementation science of complementary health care: Some initial considerations for guiding safe, effective clinical decision-making. *Advances in Integrative Medicine*, 5(1), 5-8. doi:10.1016/j.aimed.2018.02.002