



Defense Health Agency (DHA) Clinical Communities Speaker Series

2025 NOV CCSS: Optimizing Patient-Centered Military-Specific Care

2025 NOV CCSS S06: Turning Evidence into Action: Implementation Science Tools for Sustained Success

Resource List

The Department of Defense (DoD) Hearing Conservation Program was established to prevent hearing loss from occupational and operational exposure and injury, as outlined in Department of Defense Instruction (DoDI) 6055.12. Updated November 22, 2023, DoDI 6055.12 now requires quantitative hearing protector fit testing (HPFT) to objectively measure the noise reduction hearing protection provided to an individual's ear. Although HPFT is recognized as an evidence-based best practice, it has not been widely adopted. An Implementation Science approach was applied to better understand the challenges associated with putting this new requirement into practice in the DoD. The findings in the article, [Using Implementation Science To Improve the Adoption Of Hearing Protector Fit Testing In The Department Of Defense \(2025\)](#) conclusively recommended the development of additional training materials and knowledge products to assist providers and others as they work to implement the new DoDI 6055.12 HPFT requirements.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention highlighted on their webpage, [“Implementation Science” \(IS\) \(2024\)](#) how IS fits within the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH). The NIOSH Research for Impact Framework illustrates the interaction of the four priority research areas outlined in the NIOSH Strategic Plan, one of which is implementation science research (formerly referred to at NIOSH as translation research). Interventions developed through basic and intervention research and informed through surveillance can be the subject of implementation research. Central to the Framework are the diverse partners with whom we collaborate and the beneficiaries of research. Research to Practice is a fundamental guiding principle that all NIOSH research make a real-world, positive impact. Finally, concerns about achieving equitable and sustained impact are overarching all areas of NIOSH research.

TDR, the Special Program for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases, is a global program of scientific collaboration that helps facilitate, support and influence efforts to combat diseases of poverty. TDR along with the World Health Organization's Global Health Ethics team, jointly developed an [Ethics In Implementation Research Participant's Guide \(2019\)](#) including training course for researchers and research ethics committees on the important ethical considerations in implementation research. The course comprises of six interactive modules interspersed with activities including case studies, role-play and quizzes.

Despite population-wide recommendations by the U.S. Dietary Guidelines for Americans and others to encourage health-promoting dietary patterns, the proportion of Americans following dietary recommendations remains low. The gaps in the adoption and integration of evidence-based dietary interventions, practices, programs, and policies (EBIs) into community and clinical settings signal the need to strengthen efforts in implementation science (IS) in nutrition research to understand and alleviate barriers to adopting and sustaining healthy dietary behaviors and practices. Recognizing this need, the U.S. National Institutes of Health (NIH) 2020–2030 Strategic Plan for NIH Nutrition Research calls for the expansion of IS as outlined in the article, [Opportunities to Advance Implementation Science And Nutrition Research: A Commentary On The Strategic Plan For NIH Nutrition Research \(2022\)](#). This commentary highlights three scientific opportunities to stimulate IS in nutrition research and provides examples for each opportunity. These include: (a) Advance consideration of implementation and dissemination early in the design of interventions to facilitate opportunities for equitable scale-up and sustainability of EBIs, (b) Develop and test strategies for equitable implementation of nutrition and diet EBIs in health care and community settings, and (c) Build and strengthen the infrastructure, capacity, and expertise needed to increase use of IS in



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clinical and community nutrition research to swiftly move the research into practice. By advancing the three opportunities identified in this commentary, the scientific community has the potential to advance the field of nutrition research and IS with the ultimate goal of improving public health.



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References

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