

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION AIC 2016: #17

1. Title:

The Standards for Reporting Implementation Studies (StaRI)

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3. Key words:

Implementation research, reporting standards, checklist

4. Abstract text:

a. Background and Aims:

Implementation studies are often poorly reported making it difficult to identify relevant studies and to synthesize the evidence base to inform practice. The StaRI checklist identifies standards for reporting implementation studies that evaluate implementation efforts to enhance the adoption and sustainability of evidence-based interventions across the range of study designs used in implementation science (IS).

b. Methods:

A systematic literature review and international e-Delphi exercise led to the development of a prioritized list of candidate items. A consensus workshop convened with 15 international multidisciplinary delegates reviewed candidate items and produced a draft checklist. Discussions were informed by the outcome of the e-Delphi exercise, other published reporting standards, the wider literature, and the panel's IS expertise. The initial draft statement and documents were subsequently discussed and developed iteratively by e-mail.

c. Results:

Two defining concepts underpin the StaRI reporting standards (i) the dual strands of describing the implementation strategy and the clinical, healthcare, or public health intervention being implemented; and (ii) unlike most reporting standards that apply to a specific research methodology applied in range of contexts, StaRI standards pertain to the broad range of study designs employed in implementation science. The presentation will review the checklist items.

d. Conclusion:

Implementation science is a rapidly evolving field with no clear consensus on quality standards for reporting. The StaRI is an evolving document and potentially a catalyst for discussing and defining how implementation studies are planned and reported.