



New perspectives on evaluation in palliative care

Summing up and reflection

Gunn Grande
Nancy Preston

Approaches to evaluation

- Qualitative approaches to evaluation and to improve quantitative evaluation
- Observational design
- Mixed methods design
- Alternative RCT designs: cluster and fast track

Palliative care = complex interventions

What makes an intervention complex?

Number of interacting components within the experimental and control arms

Number and difficulty of behaviours required by those delivering or receiving the intervention

Number and variability of outcomes

Degree of flexibility or tailoring of the intervention permitted

Evaluating complex interventions

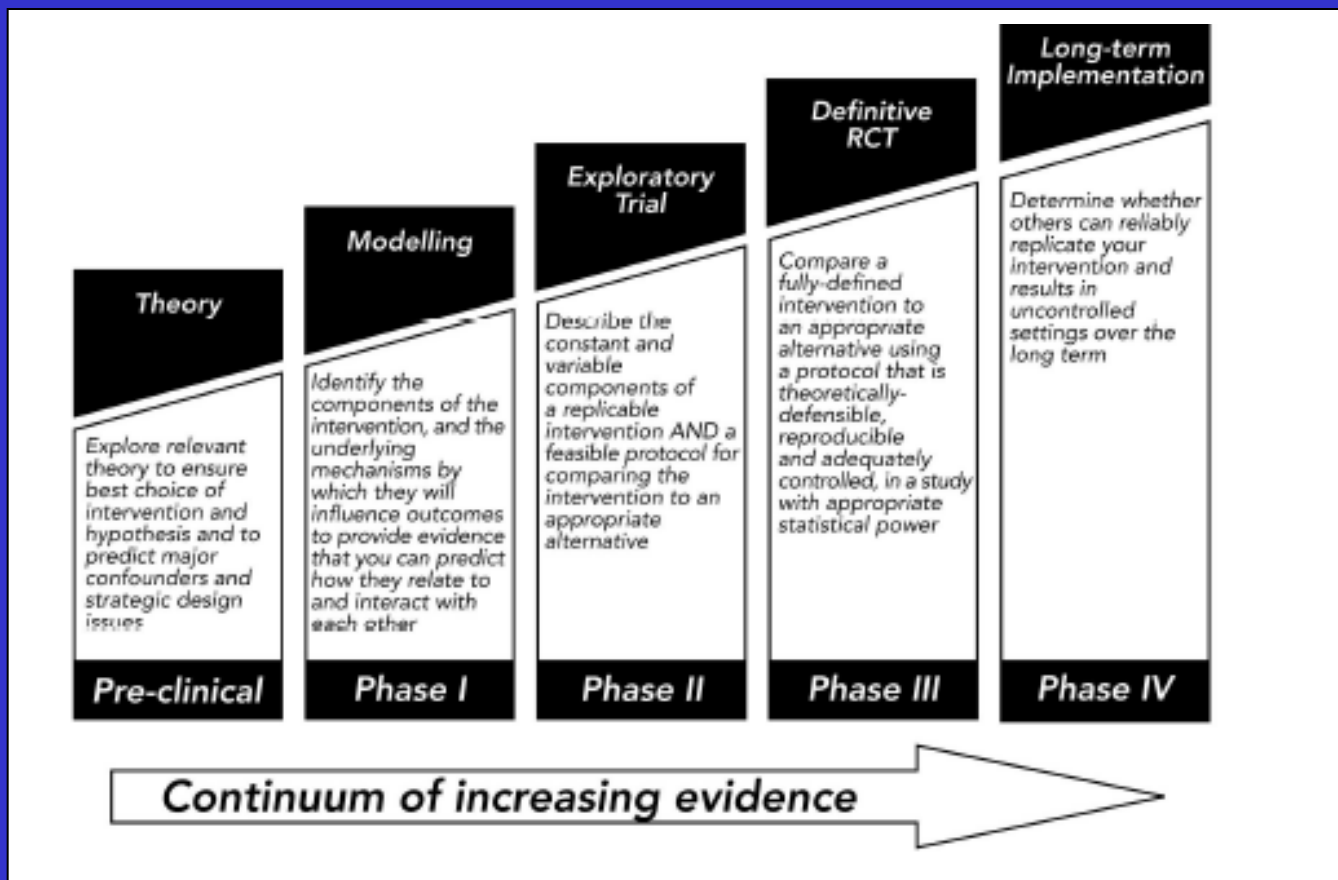


A FRAMEWORK FOR DEVELOPMENT AND EVALUATION OF RCTs FOR COMPLEX INTERVENTIONS TO IMPROVE HEALTH

This document is a discussion document drafted by members of the MRC Health Services and Public Health Research Board. It is intended to provide a framework for individuals considering the evaluation of a complex intervention. It does not set out a set of required steps in carrying out trials in this area.

April 2000

Modelled on the phases of drug development and evaluation





Developing and evaluating complex interventions: new guidance

Prepared on behalf of the Medical Research Council by:

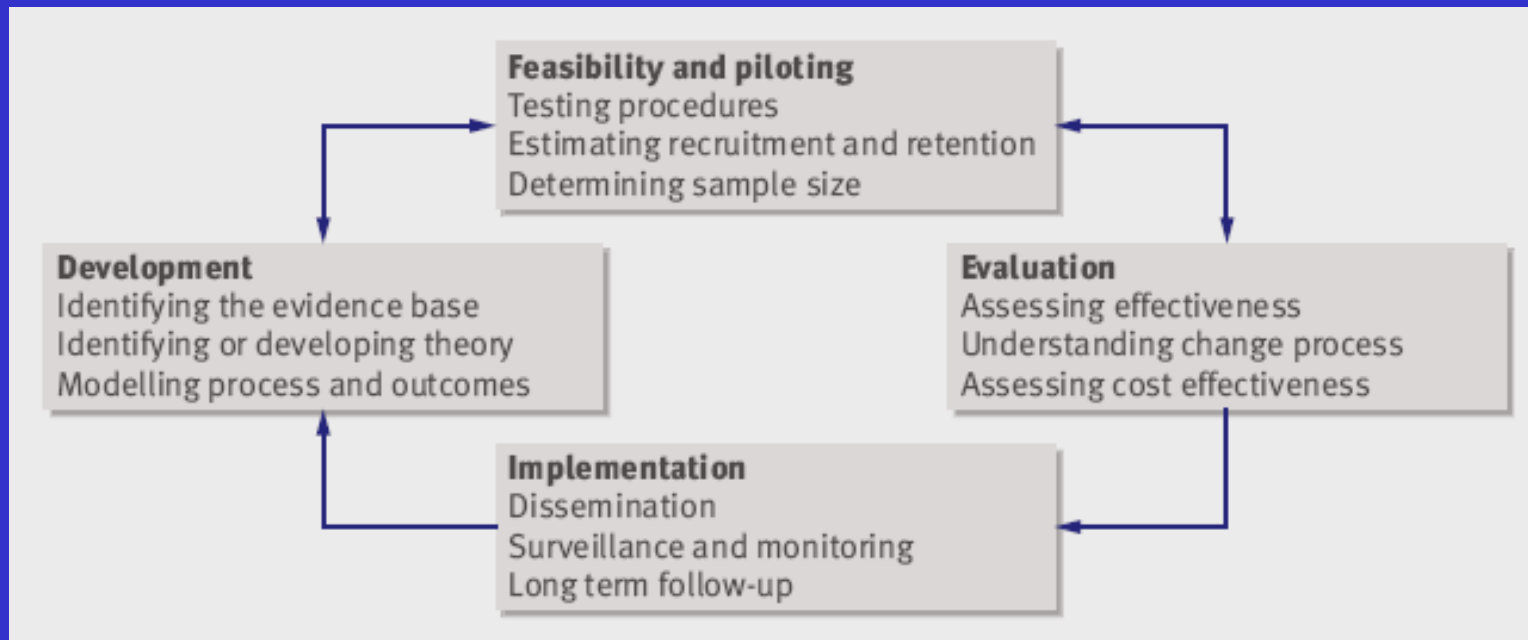
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www.mrc.ac.uk/complexinterventionsguidance

Updated and
revised guidance
for evaluation of
complex
interventions

www.mrc.ac.uk/complexinterventionsguidance

Systematic but less linear and uni-directional



New guidance

- Greater recognition of pragmatic, ethical, political challenges
- Local contexts
- Integration of process and outcome evaluation
- Different designs to suit type of questions and circumstances
- Use of best available methods, including alternatives to randomised trials (noting limitations and caution in interpretation)
- Broader range of experimental methods (cluster, stepped wedge, preference, N of 1)

Palliative care



End of Life Care Strategy

Promoting high quality care for all adults at the end of life



*'How people die
remains in the memory
of those who live on'*

Dame Cicely Saunders
Founder of the Modern Hospice Movement

July 2008



“There is a need to develop methods for the evaluation of new service models in end of life care, for example, methods that can be applied routinely to evaluate the many natural experiments that arise in the NHS from service re-design”

Methods for evaluating service delivery models for end of life care: development of best practice guidance

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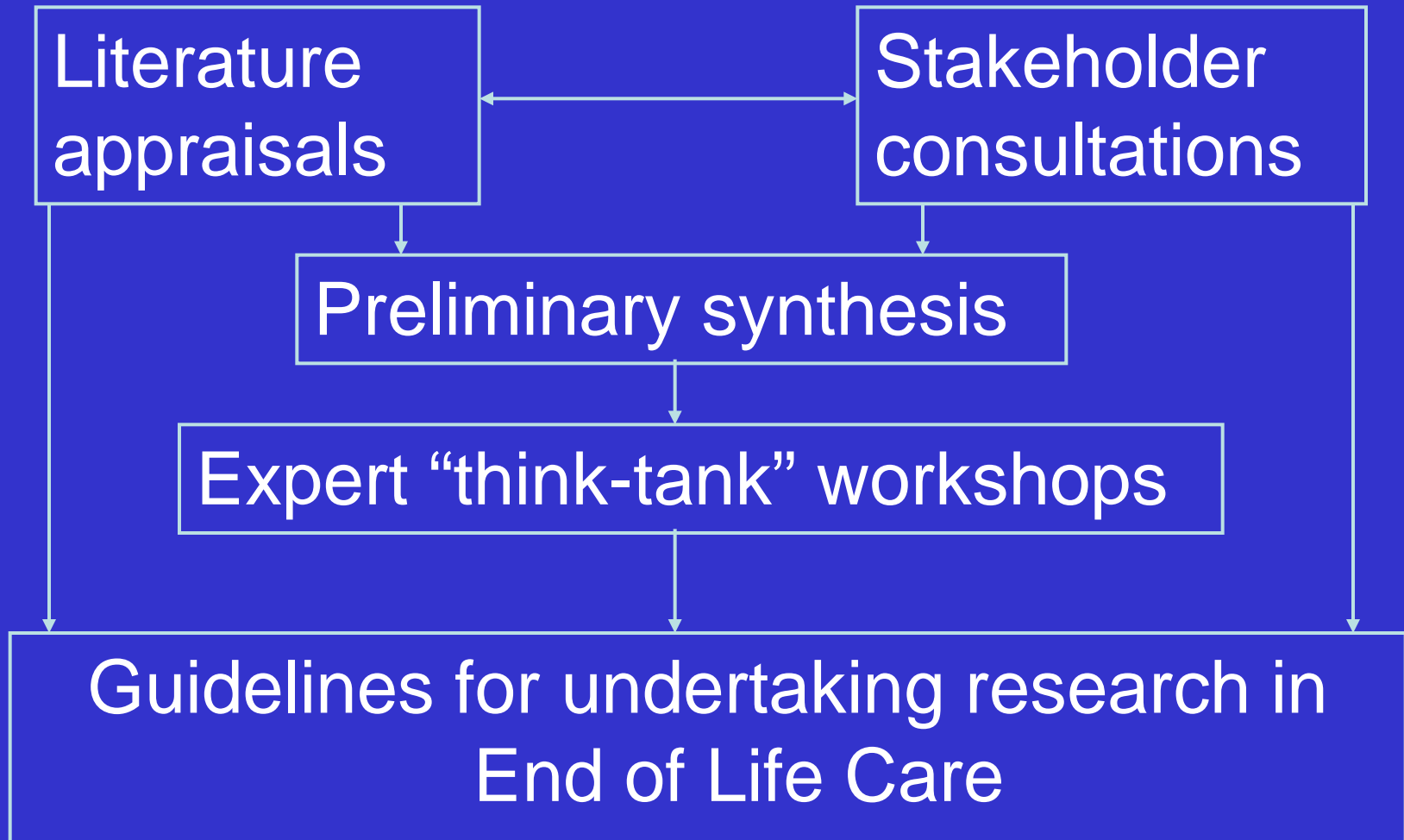
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Practical, ethical, legal and methodological issues



Thank you
to all our speakers and everyone
who has participated in this
event

References

- Craig P, Dieppe P, Macintyre S, Mitchie S, Nazareth I, Petticrew M (2008). Developing and evaluating complex interventions: the new Medical research council guidance. *BMJ* 2008;337:a1655. doi: 10.1136/bmj.a1655
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Symptoms Theme
State of the Science Meeting

Patient Reported Outcome Measures (PROMS) in Cancer and Palliative Care

Tuesday 6th July 2010
Chancellors Conference Centre
Manchester M14 6NN

Background

Patient-reported outcome measures (PROMs) provide a means of gaining an insight into the way patients perceive their health and the impact that treatments or adjustments to lifestyle have on their quality of life. While many such measures were originally designed for assessing treatment effectiveness in the context of clinical trials, they are now used more widely to assess patient perspectives of care outcomes. The aim of the meeting is to bring together health care professionals and researchers to discuss the current state of the science on PROMs and future research priorities.

Objectives

- ♦ To establish the value of PROMs in cancer and palliative care
- ♦ To highlight areas that need further work to deepen our understanding of PROMs
- ♦ To identify research challenges relating to PROMs
- ♦ To develop a clear definition of PROMs

Speakers

- ♦ Prof Julia Addington-Hall, University of Southampton, UK.
- ♦ Prof Neil K. Aaronson, The Netherlands Cancer Institute & The University of Amsterdam, Netherlands
- ♦ Prof Donna L. Lamping, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, UK
- ♦ Dr Matthias Rose, University of Massachusetts, USA & University Clinic Hamburg, Germany
- ♦ Mr David Nuttall, Economic Adviser, DOH, UK
- ♦ Prof Tim Peters, University of Bristol, UK
- ♦ Mr Alastair Kent, Genetics Interest Group, UK
- ♦ Dr Jill Dawson, University of Oxford, UK

Forthcoming event

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