

Preparing for Scalability & Sustainability:

The Role of Implementation Science

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Implementation Science:

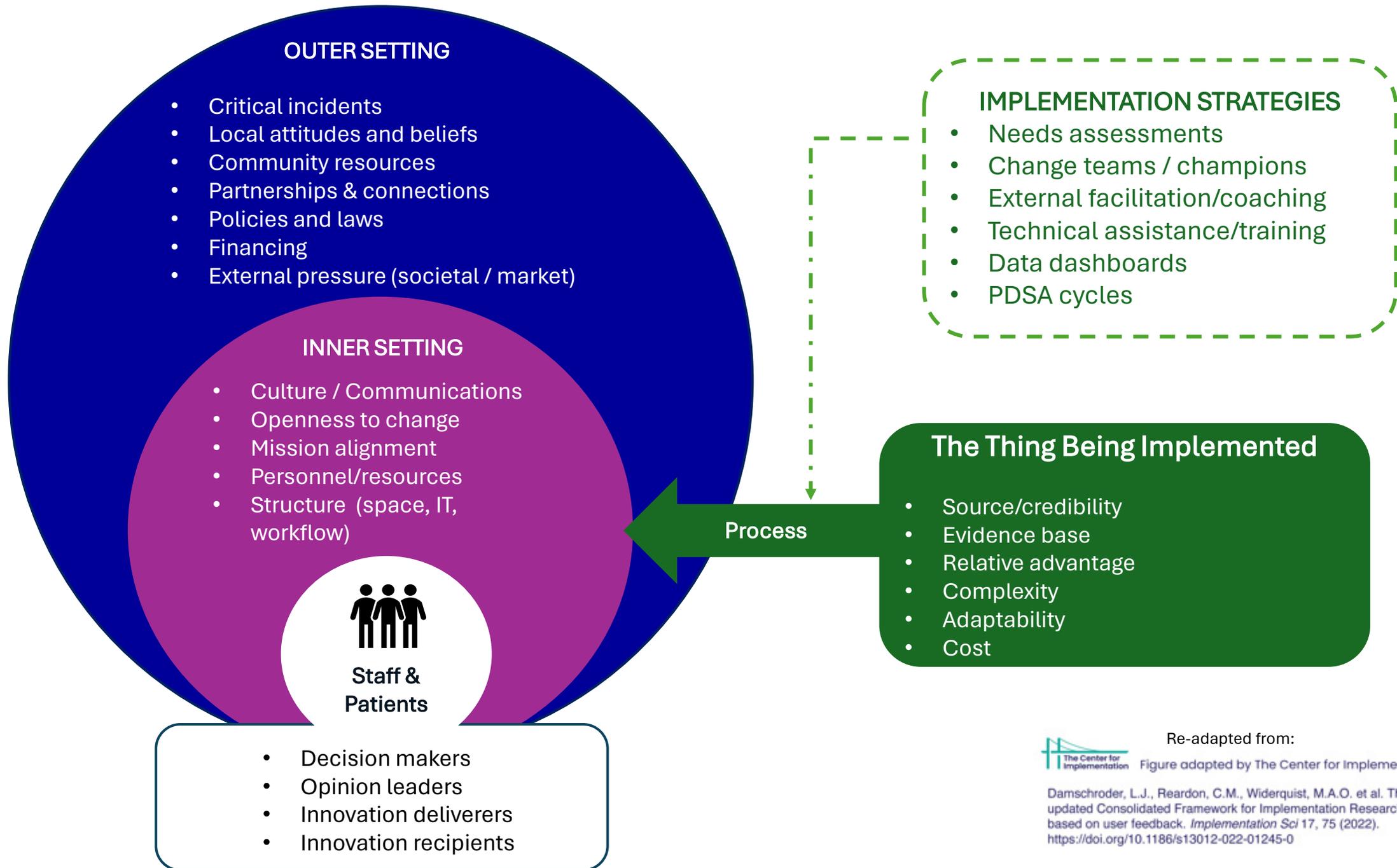
the study of **how** to integrate evidence-based practices
into **routine** care delivery settings

*Implementation science seeks to systematically close the gap
between what we know and what we do (i.e., **know-do gap**).*

Why the push for implementation science?

In services research, it's not enough to show that a program can work in one place at one time, delivered by one team or with the support of one particular leader.

**Urgent problems require urgency in how we approach solutions:
Think about tomorrow today.**

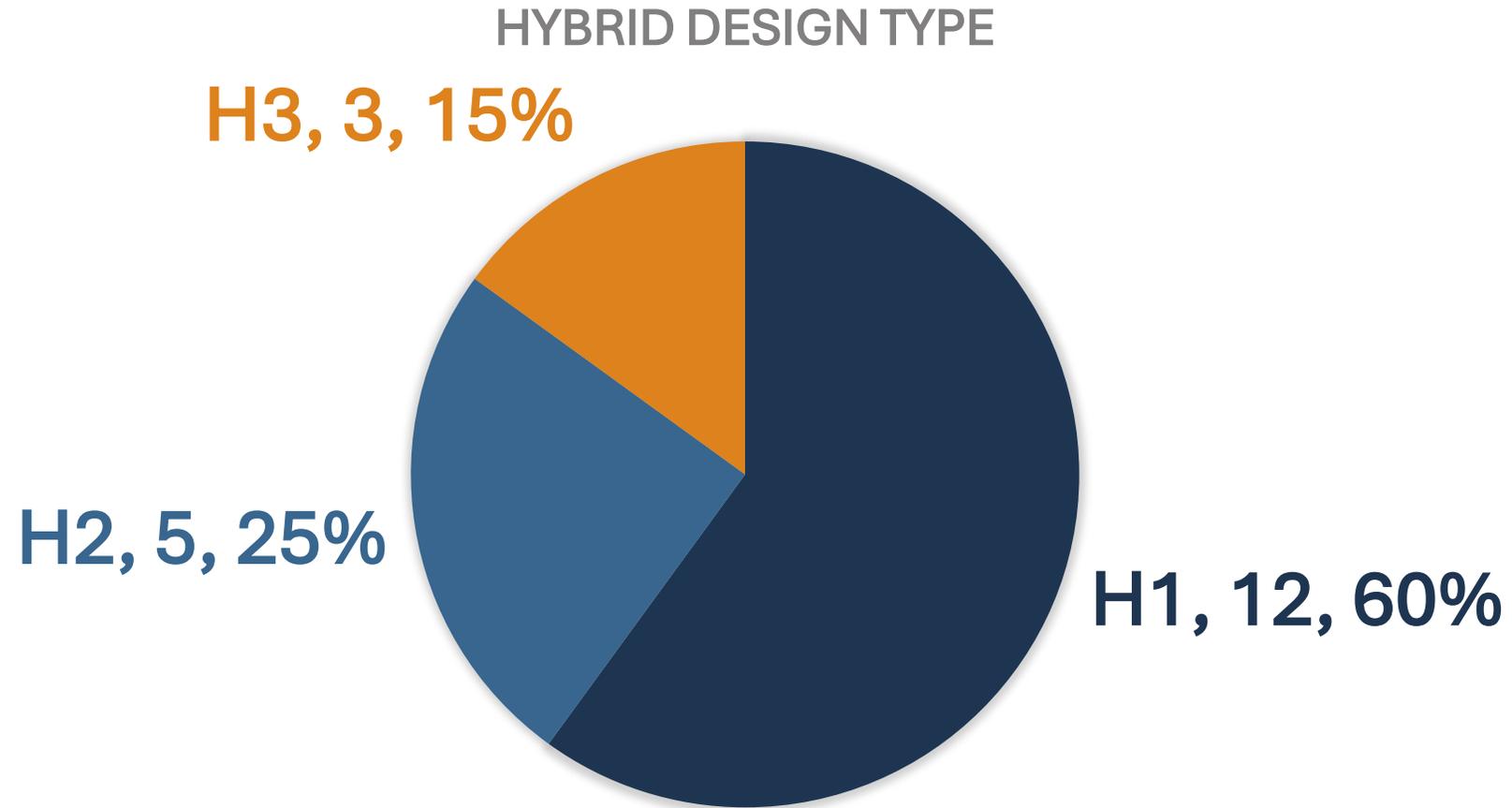


Re-adapted from:

Figure adapted by The Center for Implementation

Damschroder, L.J., Reardon, C.M., Widerquist, M.A.O. et al. The updated Consolidated Framework for Implementation Research based on user feedback. *Implementation Sci* 17, 75 (2022). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s13012-022-01245-0>

Hybrid Implementation Designs in JCOIN 2.0 Proposed Study



My ask to you:

- Push yourself toward H2 vs. H1 designs where possible, especially if you are looking at MOUD implementation
 - For complex, multicomponent interventions, think about what you should be measuring to understand scalability and sustainability potential of your intervention
 - Do more than just describe the implementation environment
- Look for scientific opportunities to better understand any “secret sauce” of your implementation
 - E.g., Are learning collaboratives effective? What is the optimal approach to learning collaboratives? (Dosage, structure, target?)
- Build science in anywhere you are making assumptions or guesses
- Measure common implementation outcomes

Possible points of synergy

- Use models to map the logic of your intervention and identify opportunities to enhance the strength of implementation science components of your model in advance of launching
 - [Translational Science Benefits Model](#)
 - JD Smith Implementation Research Logic Model ([Smith, Li, & Rafferty, 2020](#))
- Adapt existing tools to help support your sites in taking an active role in implementing the practices you are studying (particularly if you are looking at MOUD implementation) (e.g., [implementation scorecard](#))
- Consider a combined JCOIN-CONNECT workgroup and build on their momentum to date
- Be sure to participate in webinar with HD2A RASC/CDIAS

CONNECT Implementation Science Workgroup Activities

- ***New Resource:*** Implementation Science Toolkit developed to support the workgroup and facilitate the use of rigorous IS methodology within the CONNECT Research Hubs
- ***Needs Assessment of Hubs:*** Short (10-minute) survey collecting high-level outcomes and strategies across studies during R33 phase to help guide harmonization discussions

CONNECT-EDC Implementation Science Toolkit

This toolkit has been created by the CONNECT EngageData Center Implementation Science Workgroup, led by RTI International, as a resource to facilitate the use of rigorous implementation science methodology within the CONNECT Research Hubs. The toolkit consolidates information from the published literature and online resources to provide information, resources, and validated measures and tools organized by tabs according to typical steps in implementation research. These tabs include the following: Preparing for Implementation Science Research; Understanding Mechanisms of Change; Applying Theories, Models, and Frameworks; Outcomes Repository of Validated Measures and Guidance; and Selecting Implementation Strategies.

This toolkit is designed to be a "living" document, which can be updated and expanded upon as information and resources become available. We welcome contributions from toolkit users. *If you have implementation science references, measures, tools, or other resources to improve this toolkit please send them to Kayla Keys at kkeys@rti.org with the subject line: IS toolkit*

Repository of references, tools, and other resources in the following domains:

- Preparing for Implementation Science
- Mechanisms of change
- Theories, Models, and Frameworks
- Implementation Outcomes Operationalization Guide and Repository
- Implementation Strategies Resources

Discussion & Questions