Open Call: JAIDS Supplement on Implementation Science

HIV-Related Implementation Science and Research Methods: State of the Art


(Thank you all for your submissions)

Call for Submissions

Implementation science is an emerging field focused on closing the gap between efficacious interventions and real-world practice, and thereby maximizing their public health impact. At this juncture, we have powerful biomedical and behavioral tools for treating and preventing HIV but our ability to use these tools effectively and at scale remains unrealized. While this gap has motivated the HIV research community to enthusiastically embrace implementation science, there is less consensus on the approaches and methods needed for successful implementation science in the context of the HIV epidemic. In response we are therefore seeking submissions for a special issue of JAIDS titled, Implementation Science and the Global Response to HIV: Methodological Challenges and Directions. We plan for this collection to act as a resource for emerging and established HIV investigators to catalyze the next generation of implementation science to end the HIV pandemic.

Broadly speaking, we seek papers in two categories: design and strategies. The first area would be on study designs to enhance external validity papers that focus on how to do research on prominent implementation strategies used in the HIV response. For papers focused on design we anticipate studies to call attention to features of observational, experimental, and modeling-based research that examine sampling, measurement and analytic innovations to optimize the relevance of knowledge for diverse real-world settings. The second area focuses on research approaches to promising implementation strategies and populations in particular need. The papers in this volume seek to help researchers working on HIV to improve HIV-related implementation science.

Some topics in this volume have been solicited and both give prospective contributors a flavor of the type of work sought as well as specific topics that are spoken for:
Impact evaluation and econometric designs for health in implementation science addressing HIV

- Modeling implementation strategies to advance the HIV response
- Qualitative research for implementation science: conceptualizing mechanisms and motivations
- Bringing the transport framework to implementation science for the HIV response
- Adaptivity in trials for implementing HIV prevention and treatment strategies
- The conduct of research lead by public health implementers
- Use of social networks to understand and overcome implementation barriers in the HIV epidemic
- Using the internet as a research tool to reach hard to reach populations
- Faith-based community engaged implementation science for HIV prevention
- Research methods to engage key populations
- Crowd sourcing and advancing the HIV response

Details and Dates

Proposals for the JAIDS supplement should focus on either design or strategy. Studies can be international or U.S.-based.

- The papers should be 3,000 words with approximately five total figures and tables combined.

- Please note that acceptance of papers is not guaranteed. If you agree to participate, your paper will be subject to standard blinded peer review.

- Important dates to consider:
Extended to April 30, 2019: Initial submission of articles to editors by emailing your draft to Elizabeth.Rojo@ucsf.edu.

- June 15, 2019: Authors to receive reviewers’ comments
- August 1, 2019: Authors to submit revised manuscript
- December 1, 2019: Target publication date

All accepted papers will be self-funded. All papers will be open access.

For questions, please contact Elizabeth Rojo, coordinator of the supplement, at Elizabeth.Rojo@ucsf.edu.

We look forward to receiving your proposals,

Elvin Geng, MD, MPH
Associate Professor of Medicine, SF General Hospital
University of California, San Francisco

Maya L. Petersen MD, PhD
Associate Professor, Biostatistics & Epidemiology
University of California, Berkeley

James Hargreaves, MSc, PhD
Professor, Epidemiology & Evaluation
London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine

Stefan Baral, MD, MPH
Associate Professor, Department of Epidemiology
Johns Hopkins University