



Center for Mental Health
Services Research

Brown School



Washington
University in St. Louis

BROWN SCHOOL

Dear Colleagues,

Happy Spring! We are eager to share our remaining CMHSR presentations for this academic year, as well as several new publications from CMHSR faculty and trainees. Please subscribe to our CMHSR YouTube channel, which houses our CMHSR Seminars and other related presentations.

As always, we welcome your suggestions for future CMHSR Bulletins.

Take care,

Leopoldo J. Cabassa and Byron J. Powell
Co-Directors, Center for Mental Health Services Research
Brown School at Washington University in St. Louis

Please follow us on social media: [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#)

CMHSR News

Presentations

Upcoming CMHSR Monthly Seminars

Peer Group Lifestyle Intervention Enhanced with Mobile Health for Young Adults with Serious Mental Illness: Results of a Randomized Controlled Trial

April 28th, 2021 | 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. CST

Dr. Aschbrenner will present as a part of the CMHSR Monthly Seminar Series. Kelly Aschbrenner, PhD, is an Associate Professor of Psychiatry at the Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth College, Senior Scientist in the Dartmouth-Hitchcock Health System, and Director of Research at New Hampshire Hospital. Her research focuses on the development, evaluation and implementation of evidence-based practices to improve the health and quality of life of individuals living with serious mental illness. She uses a unique blend of intervention research, community-engagement, digital health technologies, mixed methods research, and implementation science in her research.

Register [here!](#)

Digital Health Interventions for Depression and Diabetes in Underserved Populations

May 26th, 2021 | 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. CST

Dr. Aguilera will present as a part of the CMHSR Monthly Seminar Series. Adrian Aguilera, Ph.D., is an Associate Professor in the School of Social Welfare at UC Berkeley and the Department of Psychiatry

at UC San Francisco. At UC Berkeley, Dr. Aguilera directs the Digital Health Equity and Access Lab (dHEAL), the Latinx Center of Excellence (LCOE) and at UCSF, he directs the Latino Mental Health Research Program (LMHRP). Dr. Aguilera's research is focused on developing and testing technology-based interventions to address health disparities in low-income and vulnerable populations.

Register [here!](#)

Publications

[Malone, S., McKay, V. R., Krucylak, C., Powell, B. J., Liu, J., Terrill, C., Saito, J. M., Rangel, S. J., & Newland, J. G. \(2021\). A cluster randomized stepped-wedge trial to de-implement unnecessary post-operative antibiotics in children: The optimizing perioperative antibiotic in children \(OPerAtiC\) trial. Implementation Science, 16\(29\). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s13012-021-01096-1>](#)

A 3-year stepped wedge cluster randomized trial will be conducted at nine US Children's Hospitals to assess the impact of two de-implementation strategies, order set change and facilitation training on inappropriate post-operative antibiotic prescribing in low risk surgical cases. This study will provide important information on the impact of strategies to de-implement unnecessary post-operative antibiotic use in children while assessing important clinical outcomes. Along with this study, other rigorously designed studies evaluating additional strategies are needed to further advance the burgeoning field of de-implementation.

[Gertner, A. K., Franklin, J., Roth, I., Cruden, G. H., Haley, A. D., Finley, E. P., Hamilton, A. B., Palinkas, L. A., & Powell, B. J. \(2021\). A scoping review of the use of ethnographic approaches in implementation research and recommendations for reporting. Implementation Research and Practice, 2. <https://doi.org/10.1177/2633489521992743>](#)

The contested meanings of ethnography pose challenges and possibilities to its use in implementation science (IS). The goal of this study was to identify sources of commonality and variation, and to distill a set of recommendations for reporting ethnographic approaches in IS. Ethnography holds great potential for contributing further to IS, particularly to studying implementation strategy mechanisms and understanding complex adaptive systems.

[Cohen, F. & Yaeger, L. \(2021\). Task-shifting for refugee mental health and psychosocial support: A scoping review of services in humanitarian settings through the lens of RE-AIM. Implementation Research and Practice, 2. <https://doi.org/10.1177/2633489521998790>](#)

The refugee experience is fraught with obstacles from preflight to resettlement, leading to high rates of mental distress including post-traumatic stress disorder, depression, and anxiety. To meet the needs of this vulnerable population, researchers are experimenting with teaching lay community members basic tools for the delivery of mental health and psychosocial support services (MHPSS). This review utilizes an implementation science framework (RE-AIM) to assess the reach, effectiveness, adoption, implementation, and maintenance of these interventions.

[Fraser, E. R., Hill-Kapturczak, N., Jett, J., Beck, R., Oluwoye, O., Kriegel, L. S., Alcover, K. C., McPherson, S., Cabassa, L. J., Javors, M., & McDonnell, M. G. \(2021\). Mixed-methods trial of a phosphatidylethanol-based contingency management intervention to initiate and maintain alcohol abstinence in formerly homeless adults with alcohol use disorders. Contemporary Clinical Trials Communications, 22. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.conctc.2021.100757>](#)

The authors aim to investigate whether a phosphatidylethanol-based contingency management intervention targeting alcohol abstinence in formerly homeless, currently housed individuals with alcohol use disorders is: (1) acceptable and feasible for housing program tenants and personnel; and is associated with increased (2) alcohol abstinence and (3) housing tenure.

[Stefancic, A., Bochicchio, L., Tuda, D., Harris, Y., DeSomma, K., & Cabassa, L. J. \(2021\). Strategies and lessons learned for supporting and supervising peer specialists. *Psychiatric Services*. <https://doi.org/10.1176/appi.ps.202000515>](https://doi.org/10.1176/appi.ps.202000515)

The authors present supervision strategies and lessons learned that emerged during a large pragmatic trial in three supportive housing agencies that examined a peer-delivered healthy lifestyle intervention for people with serious mental illness. Strategies included access to multiple supervisors, formal and informal support, acknowledgment of lack of role clarity, ongoing role negotiation, a collaborative approach to troubleshooting challenges, explicit emphasis on peer specialists' value, and linking peer specialists to opportunities for mutual support and professional development.

[Stefancic, A., Bochicchio, L., Tuda, D., Gurdak, K., & Cabassa, L. J. \(2021\). Participant experiences with a peer-led healthy lifestyle intervention for people with serious mental illness. *Psychiatric Services*. <https://doi.org/10.1176/appi.ps.202000311>](https://doi.org/10.1176/appi.ps.202000311)

This study explored the experiences of individuals with serious mental illness who were predominantly Black, were living in supportive housing, and participated in the Peer-Led Group Lifestyle Balance (PGLB) intervention. The findings suggest that future interventions should expand support for self-monitoring, meal planning, tailored physical activity, and advocacy. Such interventions should also enhance participants' understanding of the corresponding impact of changes on weight loss and emphasize subjective wellness outcomes to maintain motivation.

[Stanick, C., Halko, H., Mettert, K., Dorsey, C., Moullin, J., Weiner, B., Powell, B. J., & Lewis, C. C. \(2021\). Measuring characteristics of individuals: An updated systematic review of instruments' psychometric properties. *Implementation Research and Practice*, 2. <https://doi.org/10.1177/26334895211000458>](https://doi.org/10.1177/26334895211000458)

The current study advances the work that the authors published in 2015 by providing an updated and enhanced systematic review that identifies and evaluates the psychometric properties of implementation measures that assess individual characteristics. The majority of research that develops, uses, or examines implementation measures that evaluate individual characteristics does not include the psychometric properties of those measures. The development and use of psychometric reporting standards could advance the use of valid and reliable tools within implementation research and practice, thereby enhancing the successful implementation and sustainment of evidence-based practice in community care.

CMHSR YouTube

Find our YouTube channel [here](#) with recordings from our monthly CMHSR seminar series.

Workshops & Conferences

2021 Global Mental Health Research Without Borders Conference

April 5th – 7th, 2021

The National Institute of Mental Health and Grand Challenges Canada are sponsoring the 11th Global Mental Health Research Conference on April 5-7, 2021, which will bring together researchers, innovators, and other stakeholders from around the globe. The conference will showcase findings from cutting-edge science and explore new opportunities for groundbreaking research.

Register [here!](#)

Making the MOST of Science: Using Your Expertise for Civic Engagement

April 16th, 23rd, 30th, 2021 | 12:00 p.m. CST

The Missouri Science and Technology (MOST) Policy Initiative is developing a workshop for University of Missouri System's STEM and Social Science graduate students and postdocs about how to use their academic background to engage in science policy. The workshop will be a multi-day event, discussing the intricacies of congress, how laws are developed, and providing resources for science communication and civic engagement. On the last day of the workshop, participants will break off into groups based on interests and hold a mock meeting with a policymaker.

Register [here!](#)

Michael M. Davis Lecture Series

April 27th, 2021 | 12:30 p.m. CST

Dr. Stephanie Rennane presents "Reducing Disparities in Caregiving Burden for Families of Children with Special Health Care Needs: The Role of Supplemental Security Income". Stephanie Rennane, PhD, MA, is an economist at RAND Corporation and an affiliate faculty member at Pardee RAND Graduate School.

Register [here!](#)

What We're Reading

[Brownson, R. C., Kumanyika, S. K., Kreuter, M. W., & Haire-Joshu, D. \(2021\). Implementation science should give higher priority to health equity. Implementation Science, 16\(28\). https://doi.org/10.1186/s13012-021-01097-0.](https://doi.org/10.1186/s13012-021-01097-0)

The authors propose a vision and set of action steps for making health equity a more prominent and central aim of implementation science, thus committing to conduct implementation science through equity-focused principles to achieve this vision in U.S. research and practice. The article identifies and discusses challenges in current health disparities approaches that do not fully consider social determinants. Implementation research challenges are outlined in three areas: limitations of the evidence base, underdeveloped measures and methods, and inadequate attention to context.

[Strauss, D. H., White, S. A., & Bierer, B. E. \(2021\). Justice, diversity, and research ethics review. *Science*, 371\(6535\). https://doi.org/10.1126/science.abf2170](https://doi.org/10.1126/science.abf2170)

The disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on certain populations, such as Black, Latinx, and Indigenous populations in the United States, has focused attention on inequalities in health and on the need to increase enrollment of racial and ethnic minorities and other underrepresented groups in biomedical research. Responsibility to the goals of diversity lies with all stakeholders in the clinical research enterprise, and a commitment to diversity, individually and collaboratively, by research sponsors, funders, academic institutions, contract research organizations, study sites, investigators, and IRBs is necessary.
