



*Solving Complex
Implementation
Problems*

2nd Biennial Australian Implementation Conference

Sheraton on the Park, Sydney, Australia | 17 & 18 September 2014

OVERVIEW

The Australian Implementation Conference 2014 (AIC 2014), hosted by the Parenting Research Centre and the Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth (ARACY), will focus on the theme "Solving Complex Implementation Problems".

Internationally, a focus on implementation quality is becoming recognised as essential to achieving better outcomes from health and human services being offered to individuals, families, and children. With implementation science being an emerging and developing field, AIC 2014 will provide a unique opportunity to focus on the latest developments in the area. The conference will include the latest developments in practice and policy to support organisational change, system transformation, as well as implementation in human services.

A focus on implementation is an essential part of assisting agencies in specific program or service quality improvement initiatives. The intent of implementation science and related research is to investigate and address obstacles to effective implementation – or how agencies can effectively go about delivering a specified set of activities designed to put into practice an activity, innovation, program, practice or policy. Implementation support is about applying research and other knowledge in a tailored, 'hands-on' way to help policy makers and services deliver on their aspirations.

At AIC 2014, the vital role of leadership, teams and capacity-building within organisations will also be explored around multiple layers of a system, for example across practitioners, managers, organisational leaders and policy-makers. Delegates will gain the latest knowledge on applying what we know from implementation science to real-world settings in order to improve outcomes for both individuals and society.

This event follows on from the ground-breaking conference held in Melbourne in 2012 where we brought together more than 400 researchers, policy makers, practitioners, community and organisational leaders from the health, education and human services sectors. Delegates gained invaluable opportunities to build networks and leverage cross-disciplinary learning to advance the science and practice of implementation.

A call for abstracts is open (closing 4 May 2014) for presentations focusing on the areas of:

- implementation concepts and theories
- scaling up service and system-wide innovation
- measurements and tools
- evaluations for implementation

ausimplementationconference.net.au

Australian Research Alliance for Children & Youth
PO Box 5070, Braddon ACT 2612





Solving Complex
Implementation
Problems

2nd Biennial Australian Implementation Conference

Sheraton on the Park, Sydney, Australia | 17 & 18 September 2014

KEY DATES

Abstract submission close	4 May 2014
Notification distribution	27 June 2014
Date speakers are required to register	3 August 2014

Abstracts may only be submitted online on www.ausimplementationconference.net.au via the abstract submission page. If you have any problems, email events@aracy.org.au.

PRESENTATION OPTIONS

Oral presentation with PowerPoint (optional): an opportunity for you to deliver a 20 minute presentation to participants during a concurrent session.

Please note that each presenter will be limited to only one concurrent oral session in the program.

Workshop: an opportunity for you to deliver an interactive presentation to enable participants to engage in a more “hands on” approach to the subject at hand. Depending on the proposal, presenters will be allocated 45 minutes or 1.5hours.

Poster: an opportunity for you to present your poster to participants during a hosted poster viewing session. Posters will be on display for the duration of the conference.

As part of your submission you will be asked whether you:

- Consent to your abstract being made available on the Conference website during and after the Conference; and
- Consent to your session being recorded and made available on the Conference website after the Conference; and
- Consent to a copy of your PowerPoint presentation being made available on the Conference website after the Conference.

ausimplementationconference.net.au

Australian Research Alliance for Children & Youth
PO Box 5070, Braddon ACT 2612





2nd Biennial Australian Implementation Conference

Sheraton on the Park, Sydney, Australia | 17 & 18 September 2014

ABSTRACT SELECTION CRITERIA

All abstracts will be peer-reviewed by specialists in the fields of implementation. Although authors must indicate their preferred form (oral/workshop/poster), the type of presentation offered is at the discretion of the abstract review committee. The decision of the committee is final and no correspondence will be entered into.

Selection criteria will include:

- Does the abstract describe an implementation project based on available evidence?
- Does the abstract address the conference theme/s?
- Does the abstract outline key implementation questions/issues to be addressed?
- Does the abstract have relevance and utility?
- How novel or original is the work presented in the abstract?
- Do you judge the abstract to be of high quality?

THEMES

The overall Conference theme is: **Solving complex implementation problems.**

The Conference program will be structured under **six broad themes**, with each theme addressing key questions. You must select a theme that best relates to your presentation.

Theme 1: Theories and models of implementation science

This over-arching theme will examine some of the current models and theories of implementation science and their contribution to improved outcomes in human service systems.

- How do current theories and models from implementation science relate to the everyday realities of policy development and service delivery?
- What theoretical models underpin research in knowledge translation, knowledge exchange and implementation?
- What do we know about the psychology of implementation, in particular in relation to communications and influence?



*Solving Complex
Implementation
Problems*

2nd Biennial Australian Implementation Conference

Sheraton on the Park, Sydney, Australia | 17 & 18 September 2014

Theme 2:

Systems and structures to support high quality implementation

- What factors (operating at a systemic, organisational, administrative, and/or staffing level) support effective implementation and what factors work against it?
- What factors hinder effective implementation at the organisational level?
- What systems and structures at an organisational level support implementation effectiveness?
- What policy and legislative structural factors support or hinder best practice implementation?
- What sort of organisational change strategies seem to work best in implementing programs, policies and practices?
- How important is “the human factor” in effective implementation – the personal qualities and skills of organisational leaders, staff members and clients?

Theme 3:

Fidelity, Adaptation and Scale up

- How do we scale up effective practices across complex human service systems?
- What are the facilitators and barriers to effective scale up?
- How can we design effective policies and services that also allow for adaptation to suit local conditions and different client groups?
- How do we best balance intervention fidelity and local intervention adaptation?
- How do we adequately operationalize interventions so that their use can be assessed in large scale practice?

Theme 4:

Building capacity for effective implementation

- What learning, tools and processes does implementation science offer that are being applied and tested in practice?
- What can we learn from implementation science and the practical experience of others on what’s been tried, what’s worked, what hasn’t worked and why?
- What implementation frameworks are being developed or are being utilised to support the implementation process, and how well did they work?
- How do we build the capacity of the services systems effectively apply what we know from implementation science in practice?
- How can we improve implementation effectiveness on a tight budget?
- How can we make best use of new technology, e-Health, social media etc. to support more effective implementation?



2nd Biennial Australian Implementation Conference

Sheraton on the Park, Sydney, Australia | 17 & 18 September 2014

Theme 5:

Methods, measures and tools for evaluating implementation processes.

- What can we learn from the evaluations that have already been conducted?
- What evaluations have been conducted into how effectively policies, programs and innovations were implemented – and what did they find?
- What methods and measures have been used to study implementation processes and mechanisms in different contexts? Are there any stand-out approaches among them?

Theme 6:

Implementation-informed policy planning, development, delivery and evaluation.

- What do we know or not know, about the way evidence is, (or is not) implemented in policy decision making in the Australian context?
- What do we know about the determinants of public policy implementation?
- What aspects of implementation science are most useful to policymakers and how do we engage with them for better policy outcomes?
- What are the best ways to prepare and plan for large scale system change?