

**Title of Presentation:** Implementation in the Real World: Factors that Impact Implementation of Evidence-Based Programs and Practices

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For some time now, a number of practitioners and researchers have been actively developing, evaluating, and replicating evidence-based programs and practices. However, the factors involved in successful replication and implementation of model programs in new settings are not as well understood as the processes used to develop and evaluate the interventions. The formal and scientific information (“episteme”) on effective implementation strategies and issues is, at best, in its infancy. Thus, at a time when many more programs and practices are science-based, effective pathways to broad-scale implementation are dimly lit and rocky. The goal of this research was to capture the craft

knowledge (“phronesis”) in this nascent arena of implementation. Concept mapping was used to record the wisdom and experience of evidence-based program developers and implementers. There were 23 participants representing a variety of different evidence-based practices and programs that are being implemented nationally. As part of the concept mapping process, the participants generated responses to the following focus prompt, “Thinking at the practice, agency, and system level, one specific factor that influences or impacts implementation of a new program or practice is...” Participants generated approximately 124 statements, which they then sorted and labeled. In addition to sorting the statements, each participant was given a list of all 124 statements and asked to rate them from 1 to 5 in terms of importance, feasibility and dependency dimensions. The analysis of these data was conducted using the Concept System software package (Concept Systems, Inc.), which makes use of key multivariate statistical techniques including multidimensional scaling and cluster analysis. This analysis was used to create a conceptual map of statements generated by the participants. An analysis of the results and the relationship of the results to the conceptual frameworks for implementation will be presented.