

The SEED Method for Stakeholder Engagement in Question Development and Prioritization

Presenters

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Abstract

Patient-centered research aims to identify the topics, decisions and questions that are important to patients, caregivers and other stakeholders. The SEED Method was created to engage stakeholders in the development and prioritization of health-related research questions. The process focuses on creating questions that reflect stakeholder concerns, patient-centered outcomes, and the needs of populations that may be overlooked in research studies. Participants engage at three levels. A participatory research team leads the project from start to finish. The team selects the topic and identifies and recruits groups of stakeholders to participate in the project. These stakeholders draw on their personal and professional experience with the health topic to take part in a series of group exercises that culminate in a set of research questions. The third set of stakeholders provides additional consultation about the health topic through focus groups and interviews. Stakeholder participants meet over the course of several months to review data and engage in group discussions; brainstorm and discuss potential determinants of the health outcome; sketch conceptual models of how the determinants are interrelated; propose research questions; discuss patient-centered outcomes; and prioritize the research questions. Each of the stakeholder groups creates a longer list of questions which they then prioritized to create the final research agenda. The research team then conducts further research to refine and finalize the research questions and develop a dissemination plan. Questions from previous demonstrations covered a range of areas, including health care services and quality, clinical and behavioral factors, social and psychological factors, and environmental and policy issues.

Learning Objectives

Participants in the learning lab will receive an overview of the methodology and results from previous demonstrations and participate in interactive activities that include developing conceptual models and research questions. Learning objectives are to:

- 1) Build participatory conceptual models
- 2) Practice using conceptual models to develop research questions
- 3) Learn about a new method for patient and stakeholder engagement in research question development.

Schedule

- 1) Introduction to the SEED Method
- 2) Develop model within small groups
- 3) Develop questions within small groups
- 4) Report back/debrief
- 5) Recap/contextualize
- 6) Question and answer