AN EQUITABLE IMPLEMENTATION SCIENCE-BASED APPROACH:
In UGHE’s Implementation Science Webinar, speakers discussed the critical role of implementation science in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic and future outbreaks. As experts, they explored the application of implementation science in global health, and how to increase the capacity to use it through the successful example of how it was used by the Exemplars in Global Health to understand the success in the reduction of maternal and under-five child mortality. They also discussed where it can be applied to strengthen current and future pandemic responses, and how build capacity for implementation science to be more broadly applied by policymakers.

UNITING IMPLEMENTATION SCIENCE EXPERTS & RESEARCHERS

Speakers:

Prof. Timothy Carey (Host)
Director, Institute of Global Health Equity Research, Andrew Weiss Chair of Research in Global Health, UGHE

Prof. Agnes Binagwaho
Vice Chancellor of The University of Global Health Equity (UGHE)

Dr. Lisa Hirschhorn
Professor of Medical Social Sciences & Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Northwestern University

Prof. Kenneth Sherr
Professor in the Department of Global Health at the University of Washington

Dr. Quinhas Fernandes
Senior Public Health Staff, Mozambique Ministry of Health, Implementation Science Program, Department of Global Health, University of Washington

WEBINAR KEY TAKEAWAYS:

We cannot be surprised by the positive results of implementation when decisions are made based on our contextual factors, with the right evidence-based interventions and adapted implementation strategies.*

Implementation science has largely come out of high income country settings. We need to be conscious of reframing it to best meet the needs of populations in diverse settings globally.”

It’s critical to advance collaboration between researchers and policymakers in conducting implementation science research, to address the specific needs of diverse groups.*

Implementation science is an evolving practice. You need to figure out how you make it fit for purpose contextually, whilst maintaining the rigor that defines it as research. Adaptation is critical.*

To mitigate and end this pandemic, we need strong leadership from all levels of government, grounded in equity, educated on implementation science principles, and held accountable to key indicators to protect lives of populations.*

Evidence-based decisions should borrow tools and approaches from across other sectors (eg, education, immigration and infrastructure). It requires holistic thinking and a unified effort.*

By disseminating lessons learnt from exemplar country contexts (such as Rwanda), other countries can be better prepared to adapt evidence-based interventions (EBIs), backed by prior data, to their specific context.*

Capacity building programs should include policymakers, program managers, researchers and community leaders across all health care system levels and train them to build sustainable, trust-based relationships with key stakeholders.*

>50%
Of all the medical treatments delivered today are supported by evidence

INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE

>25%
Of implementation research studies are conducted by both researchers and policymakers.

JOURNAL OF GLOBAL HEALTH

17
Years for research evidence to be implemented into clinical practice.

JOURNAL OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF MEDICINE

Implementation Science is the key to strengthening equitable health systems to serve the most vulnerable. Training the next generation to adopt, and advocate for these principles is part of the solution. Find out how you can support www.ughe.org/support-our-mission