

A Dynamic Approach to Sustainability and Adaptation

David Chambers, DPhil

Definitions (from Chambers et al, 2013, “The Dynamic Sustainability Framework”)

Table 1 Definitions of key terms used in this paper

Term	Definition
Implementation	The process of putting to use or integrating evidence-based interventions within a setting [9].
Sustainability	To what extent an evidence-based intervention can deliver its intended benefits over an extended period of time after external support from the donor agency is terminated [9].
Sustainment	The continued use of an intervention within practice [10].
Voltage drop	The phenomenon in which interventions are expected to yield lower benefits as they move from efficacy to effectiveness and into real world use (adapted from [11]).
Program drift	The phenomenon whereby deviation from manualized protocols in real-world delivery of interventions is expected to yield decreasing benefit for patients (adapted from [12]).

Key Questions:

1. What is the intervention that you are planning to sustain?
2. What is the timeframe for sustainability?
3. What strategies are needed to sustain?
4. What is likely to change during this phase:
 - Intervention?
 - Context?
 - Needs?
 - Evidence?
 - Policy?

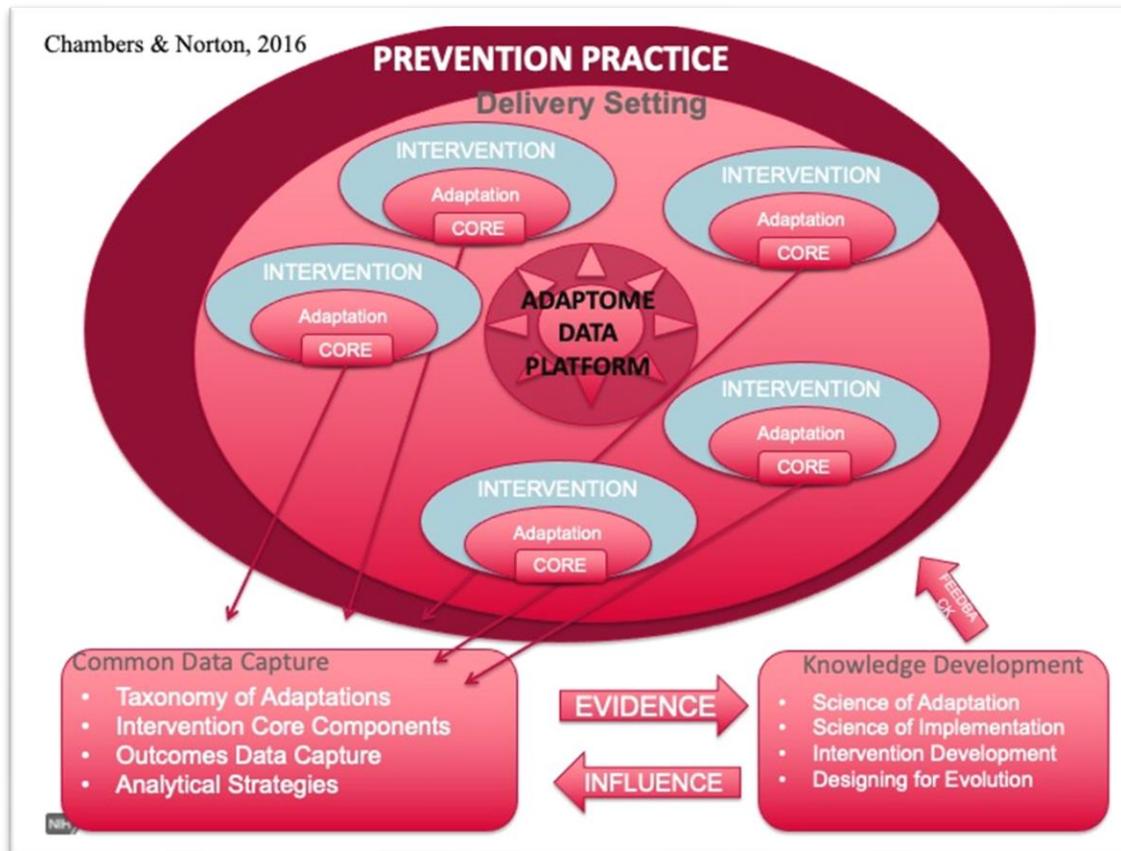


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Considering Ongoing Adaptation (ref: The Adaptome, Chambers and Norton, 2016)

Moving from traditional study of Adaptation (via a clinical trial comparing adaptation to base version of an intervention) to the concept that adaptation is part of ongoing learning (see below figure)



Activity: Discuss potential adaptations likely to emerge during implementation

Sample Intervention: Care management for depression

Key Questions:

- What kinds of adaptations do you expect to happen over a 5 year period?
- What would you want to measure?
- How can we build a common set of lessons from these experiences?
- What designs might you use?

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References:

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[Notes]



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