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**Implementation Practitioners: what knowledge, skills and abilities do they need?**

**Presenting Author**

Dr Jenna McWilliam

**Affiliation**

Triple P International (TPI)

**Country of residence**

Australia

**Objectives/aims**

The increased influence of implementation science has prompted an important question: if an organisation does not have personnel who are fluent in implementation science how do they apply it? Often an implementation expert, intermediary organisation or consultant is engaged. But who are they and what knowledge, skills and abilities must they have?

For over 5 years Triple P International Implementation Consultants (TPI-ICs) have supported organisations in the application of implementation science, using the Triple P Implementation Framework. The presentation will use data from this experience to promote discussion about required competencies for implementation consultants.

**Methods**

A review was undertaken to examine the role and responsibilities of the TPI-ICs who provide implementation support to organisations that adopt Triple P. This included a review of existing literature, a survey of all TPI-ICs and a review of the Triple P Implementation Framework (guides and tools) and systems within TPI.

The data gathered through the survey (n=27) was analysed and used to inform the development of TPI-IC Competencies, and a comprehensive IC Management and Support Process.

The presentation will describe knowledge-base, processes and characteristics for IC Competencies, IC Management and Support Process and aims to promote discussion on future areas of research and development.

**Main findings**

There is limited literature at this point on the core competencies of implementation practitioners including a lack of common terminology and title, however there is emerging literature on the role, knowledge, skills and abilities that contribute to effective consultation for implementation.

The following areas were identified by the TPI-IC survey results as areas of significance for competencies: Partnering with implementing organisations; determining fit; establishing relationships and roles; facilitating implementation planning; monitoring and evaluating; establishing the innovation as usual practice.