



Funded by the Ministry of Health through the
NSW Prevention Research Support Program

Greater than the sum of its parts...

Establishing a health services research node to improve drug and alcohol
outcomes in rural, regional, and remote NSW communities.

APSAD 2024

Dr Catherine Foley & Dr Amber Domberelli



Health
Mid North Coast
Local Health District



Health
Northern NSW
Local Health District



Health
Murrumbidgee
Local Health District



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National
Drug & Alcohol
Research Centre



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COUNTRY

DUNGHUTTI
COUNTRY

NGANYAYWANA
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COUNTRY

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Acknowledgements

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Partners

- Mid North Coast Local Health District
- Northern NSW Local Health District
- Murrumbidgee Local Health District
- Western NSW Local Health District
- Rural Clinical Campuses, UNSW
- Healthy North Coast, Primary Health Network
- Drug and Alcohol Nurses of Australasia
- Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine
- New England General Practice Research Network, UNE
- Central Clinical School, USyd
- Rural Health Research Institute, CSU
- Substance Use Research Group, University of Dundee
- Centre for Alcohol and Other Drugs, Ministry of Health
- Centre for Epidemiology and Evidence, Ministry of Health

No disclosure of interest.

This work was supported by funding provided by the NSW Ministry of Health under the NSW Health Prevention Research Support Program.

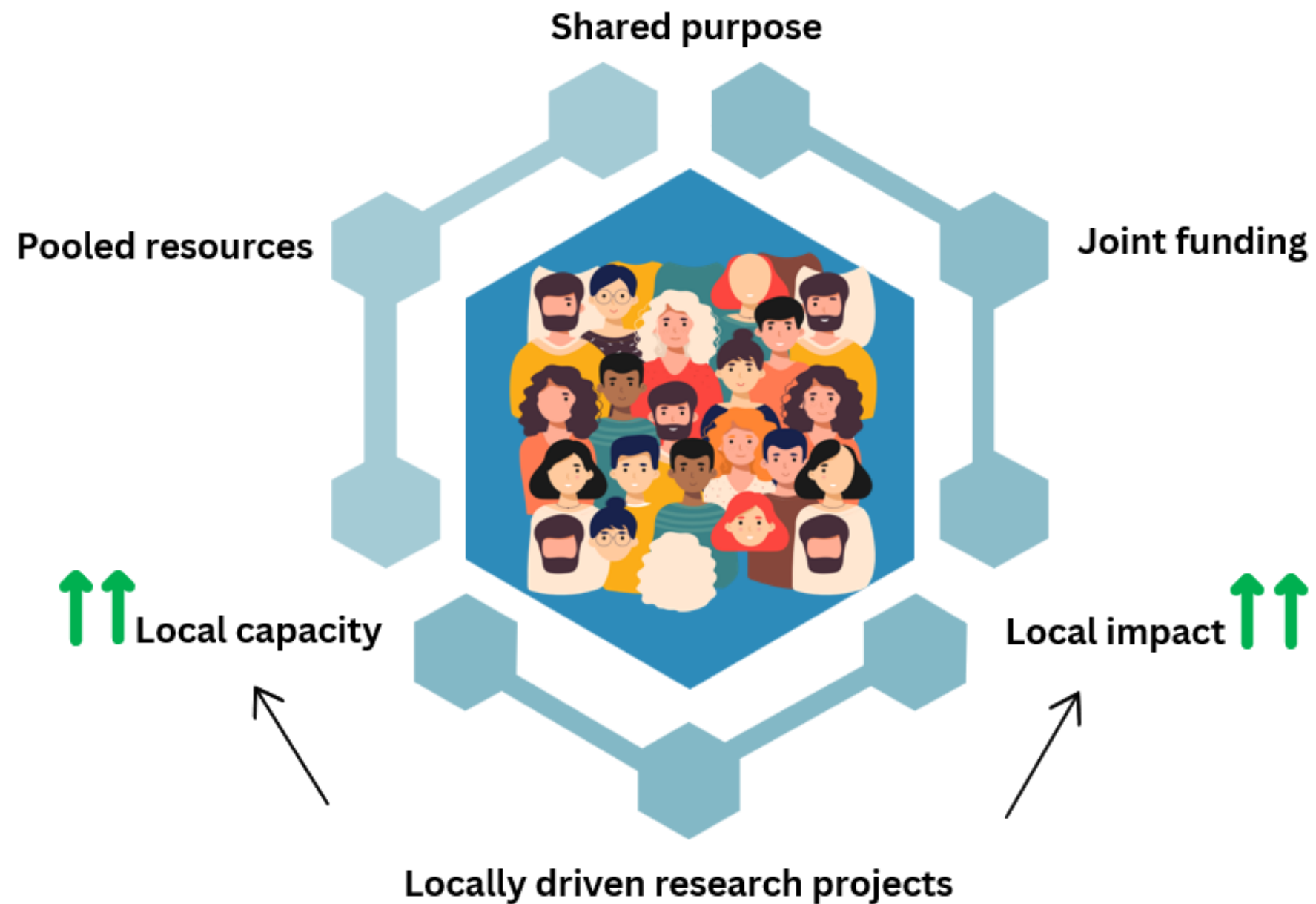
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Background



Intervention



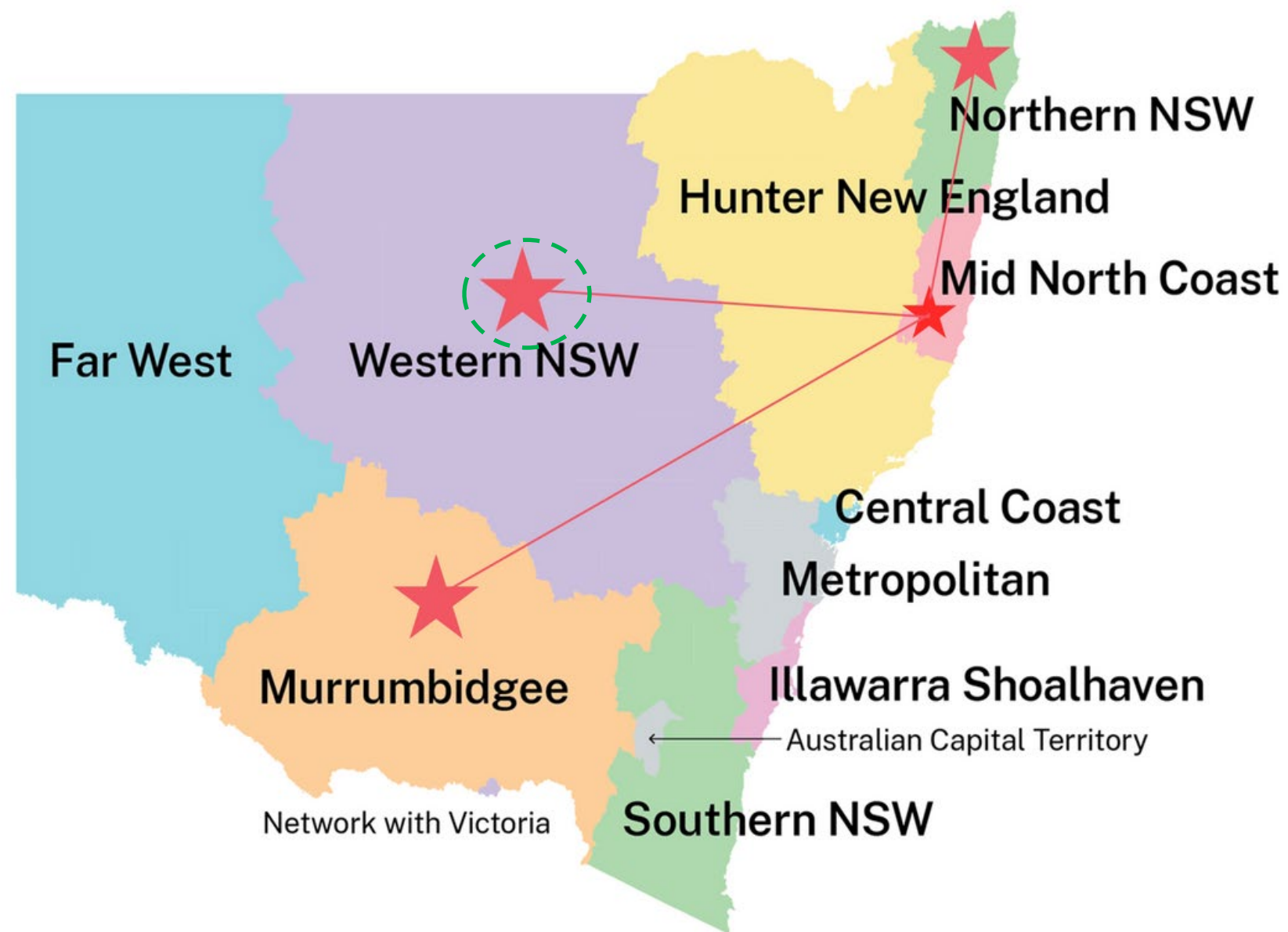
1. Establish a regional base for AOD research.

- shared resources and expertise.
- enhanced research capability.
- designed and led by people living in rural areas.

2. Develop an indicative program of work.

- consumer and clinician-driven research projects.
- locally identified priorities.
- state and/or national alignment.

Acceptability



Joint Statement of Purpose: Research Collaboration

We, the undersigned, hereby express our intent to engage in a collaborative research endeavour with the aim of addressing critical Alcohol and Other Drug challenges in rural, regional, and remote areas.

Mission. Our mission is to combine our expertise, resources, and networks to conduct high-quality research that contributes to better health in rural and regional communities.

Values

Excellence: We are committed to upholding the highest standards of research excellence, integrity, and rigor.

Collaboration: By working together, we can leverage our diverse perspectives, skills, and experiences to tackle complex challenges and create transformative outcomes.

Inclusivity: We are dedicated to fostering an inclusive and diverse research environment that values and respects individuals from all backgrounds.

Impact: We seek to translate our findings into practical applications, policies, and interventions that improve the lives of individuals and communities.

Objectives



Health
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Local Health District



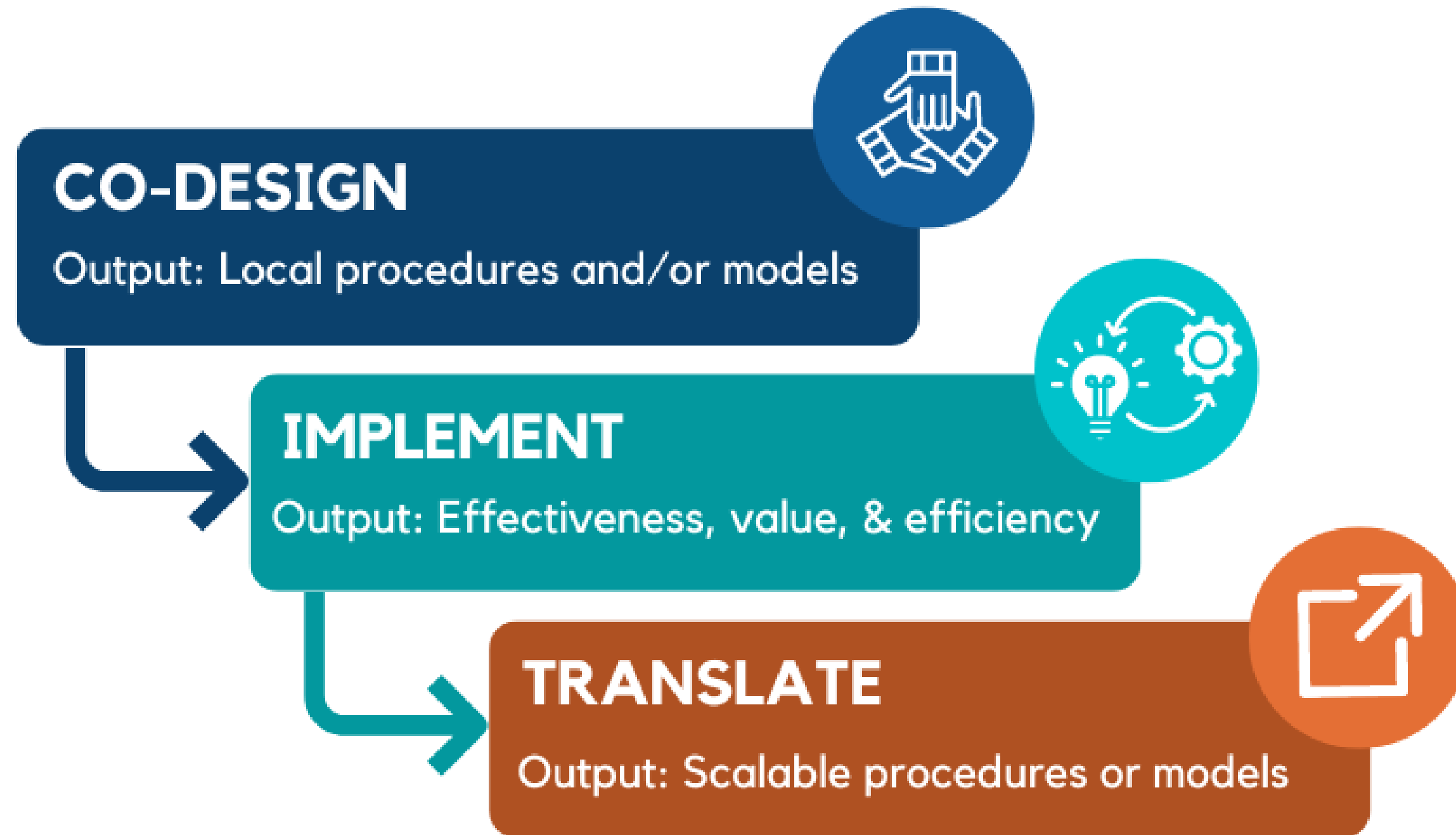
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Next steps



Foley et. al., 2023, PMID 37372904 | Farnbach et. al., 2021 PMID: 33858384 | Farnbach et.al., 2024, PMID: 38634165 | Shakeshaft et.al., 2024 [under development]



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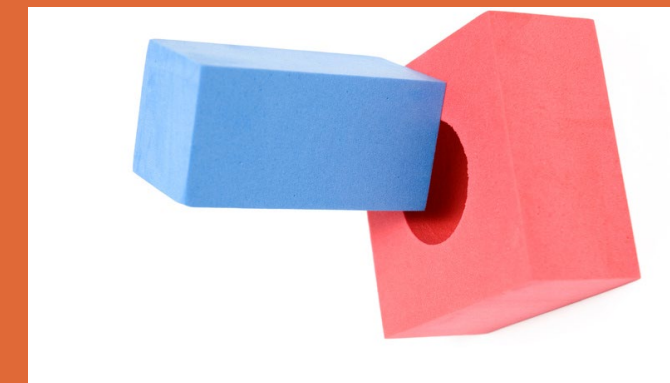
Implications



**A framework to
build evidence in
rural settings.**



**Potential to inform
clinical practice
change.**



**Rapid translation
through scalable
models of care.**

Established links with policy makers



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Thank
You!

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