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| **Title of Research Presentation** A model to understand what influences health promotion evaluation: validation of a theoretical framework.  |
| **Background/Objectives**As health promotion organisations seek to address population health inequities, contemporary approaches often necessitate complex and cross-sectoral programs and strategies. Evaluation is critical for demonstrating the effect of these strategies, identifying the mechanisms of impact, improving program design and delivery, facilitating organisational learning and can contributing to the wider evidence base for practice. In order to improve evaluation capacity we need to understand what influences health promotion evaluation practice. In this study, we aimed to build on existing evidence of the barriers and facilitators to evaluation by using quantitative methods to examine how these factors act to influence evaluation practice in Australian health promotion organisations. **Methods**We invited practitioners and managers from 116 health promotion organisations in four states of Australia to complete the Evaluation Practice Analysis Survey. Confirmatory factor analysis was used to construct key variables that influence evaluation practice. Further, we used structural equation modelling to identify important pathways between evaluation practice and the factors that influence it. **Results**The survey yielded 219 responses, from 115 organisations. Confirmatory factor analysis identified eight variables: evaluation skills, attitudes and beliefs, organisational attributes, resources for evaluation, organisations’ influence in the wider prevention system, funding body requirements, political context, and the role of external partners. We found good fit for a model that included six factors and highlighted that organisational factors influence evaluation resources and practice. Further, the political environment appears to affect resource allocation and the requirements for evaluation. **Discussion**The quantitative approach supports the findings from qualitative research and adds further evidence to guide health promotion organisations, funders and policy makers in evaluation capacity building efforts. By addressing evaluation capacity at multiple levels there is potential to strengthen evaluation practice and use, and ultimately address the population health challenges we face today. **Keywords**Program evaluation, evaluation capacity building, barriers and facilitators.  |