MIXED METHODS APPROACHES FOR PREVENTION RESEARCH

Pre-conference Workshop
Society for Prevention Research
May 28, 2013
Extramural Mixed Methods Research at NIH

Use of mixed methods is increasing


http://obssr.od.nih.gov/mixed_methods_research
### Extramural Mixed Methods Research at NIH

#### Mixed Methods Research Funding by Government Agencies

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<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number of new awards in the sample</td>
<td>% of new awards funded by the agency identified as mixed methods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Institute of Mental Health</td>
<td>55 (24.3%)</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>National Institute of Nursing Research</td>
<td>40 (17.7%)</td>
<td>2.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Cancer Institute</td>
<td>24 (10.6%)</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality</td>
<td>19 (8.4%)</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Institute on Drug Abuse</td>
<td>19 (8.4%)</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Institute of Child Health and Human Development</td>
<td>17 (7.5%)</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)</td>
<td>10 (4.4%)</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Institute on Aging</td>
<td>9 (4.0%)</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Institute for Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases</td>
<td>6 (2.7%)</td>
<td>0.05%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other (14 different agencies)</td>
<td>27 (11.9%)</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>226 (100%)</strong></td>
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Best Practices for Mixed Methods Research in the Health Sciences

Commissioned by Helen I. Meissner, Ph.D., Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research

by

- John Creswell, Ph.D., University of Nebraska-Lincoln
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With assistance from a Specially Appointed Working Group

http://obssr.od.nih.gov/mixed_methods_research
To serve as a resource for:

- **Investigators** using mixed methods in applications for NIH funding
- **Reviewers and staff** for NIH review panels
- **OBSSR and NIH Institutes and Centers** as they consider potential contributions of mixed methods research, select reviewers, plan new initiatives, and set priority areas

http://obssr.od.nih.gov/mixed_methods_research
Best Practices for Mixed Methods Research in the Health Sciences

Contents

✓ Tips for mixed methods NIH research awards (R Series), fellowship awards (F Series), career awards (K Series), institutional training awards (T series), and research center awards (P Series) applications
✓ Types of mixed methods research & approaches
✓ Recommendations for designing mixed methods studies
✓ Examples of funded mixed methods studies
✓ Tips for forming research teams & building infrastructure
Examples of Tips for Applicants

 ✓ Provide a clear rationale for the use of mixed methods based on the study goals, questions, and aims.

 ✓ Take time to assemble a successful mixed methods team, not simply add people to fill methodological gaps. The group needs to meet regularly during the design phase and throughout the process.

 ✓ Describe the individuals on projects that hold qualitative expertise in addition to quantitative and mixed methods expertise.
Examples of Tips for Reviewers

- Look for evidence of ongoing collaboration and team process building in the biographical statements or publication records of applicants.

- Be fair and constructive in comments, recognizing that mixed methods is a new, innovative methodology.

- Recognize that the application cannot educate everyone and be careful to use criteria that are appropriate for the content and methodological aspects of the application.

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Why Mixed Methods?

Mixed Methods Research Can Answer Significant Questions

• Public health problems for which neither a qualitative nor a quantitative approach by itself is sufficient.
  ✓ Health disparities among populations, age groups, ethnicities, and cultures
  ✓ Poor adherence to treatments
  ✓ Behavioral factors contributing to disability and health
  ✓ Translation of research to practice

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PAR-13-130/131/132: *Understanding and Promoting Health Literacy* (R01, R03, R21) Due Standard Dates; Expires May 2016

PAR-13-055/056/054: *Dissemination and Implementation Research In Health* (R01, R03, R21) Due Standard Dates; Expires January 2016

PA-12-024: *Practical Interventions to Address Multiple Chronic Health Conditions in Primary Care* (R01) Due Standard Dates; Expires January 2014

PA-12-022/023: *Practical Interventions to Improve Medication Adherence in Primary Care* (R01, R21) Due Standard Dates; Expires January 2014

PAR-11-314/315: *Systems Science and Health in the Behavioral and Social Sciences* (R01, R21) Due Standard Dates; Expires September 2014
Best Practices for Mixed Methods Research:
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OBSSR announces NIH funding opportunities
Send an e-mail message to:
listserv@list.nih.gov
The message should read SUBscribe BSSR-Guide-L [your full name]
MIXED METHODS APPROACHES FOR PREVENTION RESEARCH

Panel: Tips for writing mixed methods grants