Emerging Health Policy Research Conference 2018

Abstract Submission

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Presenters Details

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Short Biography of presenter (maximum 50 words):
Hossai has a BSci (Advanced Sci) in biomedical sciences (WSU), Honours in cancer drug development (UNSW), Master of Research in neuroscience (MQ), and is currently conducting her PhD in implementation science and complexity science (AIHI). Her interests are patient-centred access to new technologies in healthcare and policy engagement.

Presentation Details

Presentation Title (up to 10 Words):
How important is 'implementation science' for national genomics policy?

Keywords: (up to 5 to assist organisers in streaming papers):
Implementation, genomics, policy, health, innovation

Research Details (250 word limit)

Introduction/Background:
The traditional translation pathway of 'bench- to-bedside' will not be enough to integrate genomics into routine clinical care. It requires the use of validated and systematic '*implementation science'* methods. Within the pipeline of evidence-based translation of new technologies, *implementation science* is the phase that informs policy regarding the appropriateness, adoption, feasibility, acceptability, fidelity, penetration, and sustainability of technologies being transferred from research settings into the real world. Without *implementation science*, barriers can emerge unchecked and key drivers neglected. Health services researchers now have a large knowledge base which identifies barriers and drivers for implementation of new technologies into healthcare.

Research Question:
How is '*implementation science*' incorporated into the National Health Genomics Policy Framework?

Methodology:
Inductive analysis was used to identify the explicit and implicit use of *implementation science* outcomes within the National Health Genomics Policy Framework and the Supplementary Information documents.

Findings:
No explicit identification or use of '*implementation science*' as a translational research phase required for building an evidence base that will be essential to guiding policy formation. We identified three out of five 'Strategic Priority Areas' as requiring *implementation science* research to integrate genomics into real-world settings with no mention of *implementation science* methods. The word 'implementation' was used only to describe the high-level execution of the national policy which has been planned as the next framework. However, the framework did incorporate *implementation science* outcomes such as 'uptake' and the identification of some barriers and facilitators for the 'uptake' of genomics into Australian healthcare.

Policy Implications:
When creating the implementation plan for the National Health Genomics Policy Framework, it is essential to explicitly include *implementation science* as part of the research translation pipeline and utilise it as a tool to accomplish the 'Strategic Priority Areas' identified within the framework.

N.B. All presenters will be asked to include a final slide in their presentations that summarises the policy recommendations and/or implications that can be drawn from the research presented.