Methods & Evaluation

How to write your methods section and design your evaluation for a publishable manuscript

2016-17 Education Pilot Grantee Writing Course

Dosage of the Intervention

- How much of an intervention will be used for the treatment in your project?
- Will it be adequate to impact change leading to expected outcomes?

Research Methods

- Qualitative? Quantitative?
- Mixed methods?
- Likely not an RCT, so have to consider quasi-experimental designs

Statistics

- You do not have to be the expert
- You do need to know what it is you want to measure
- You do need to have a sense of what meaningful change looks like

Levels of Evaluation

- Is this a whole program/longitudinal curriculum?
- Is it a one-shot intervention?

Programmatic Evaluation

- **Perspective**: internal/ external stakeholders drive the evaluation?
- Sensitivity: broad scope vs more specific/focused area
- Feasibility: evaluation straightforward or need specialized knowledge to complete?
- Utility: benefit local decision makers or broader audience?
- Integration of theory: Does the evaluation rely on a theory or is it atheoretical?

Levels of Evaluation

- What changes will your intervention produce?
- Consider different levels of measurement needed for different questions:
 - Participant reaction/satisfaction
 - Participant acquisition of skills/learning outcomes
 - Participant Change/Application/Transfer of skills in the workplace and changes in behaviors

Kirkpatrick's Model of Training Evaluation

Level 5 - Return on Investment

Was the training worth the cost?

Level 4 - Results

Did the change in behavior positively affect the organization?

Level 3 - Behavior / Training Transfer

Did the participants change their behavior on-the-job based on what they learned?

Level 2 - Learning

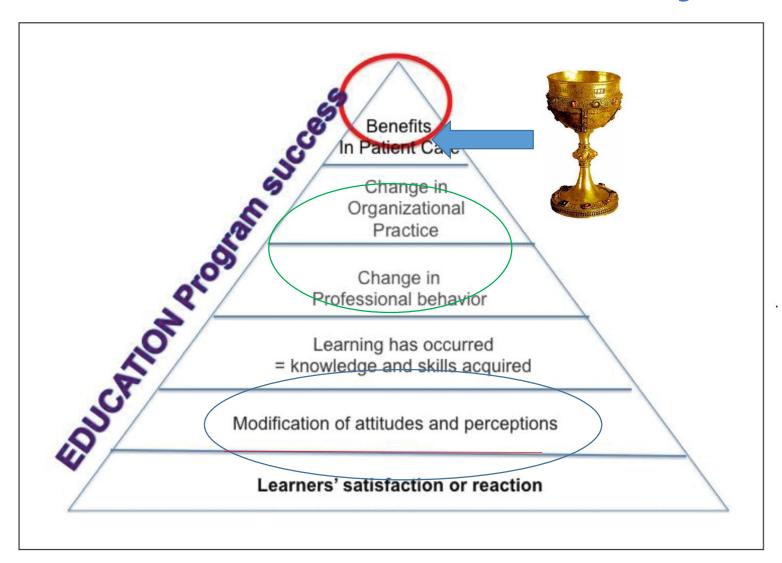
What skills, knowledge, or attitudes changed after training? By how much?

Level 1 - Reaction

Did the participants like the training?

What do they plan to do with what they learned?

Evaluation of Med Ed Projects



Measuring Change

- What are the best (reliable/valid) methods for evaluating change?
- Do these methods support your conclusions?
- Did real change occur?
- Did more than one change occur?

Evaluation Form

Program Title:

PROGRAM / CURRICULUM			EVALUATION		
1. GOAL	2. OBJECTIVES	3. DESCRIPTION	4. QUESTIONS	5. SOURCE OF DATA	6. METHODS OF DATA COLLECTION