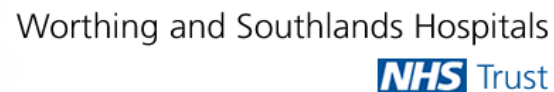


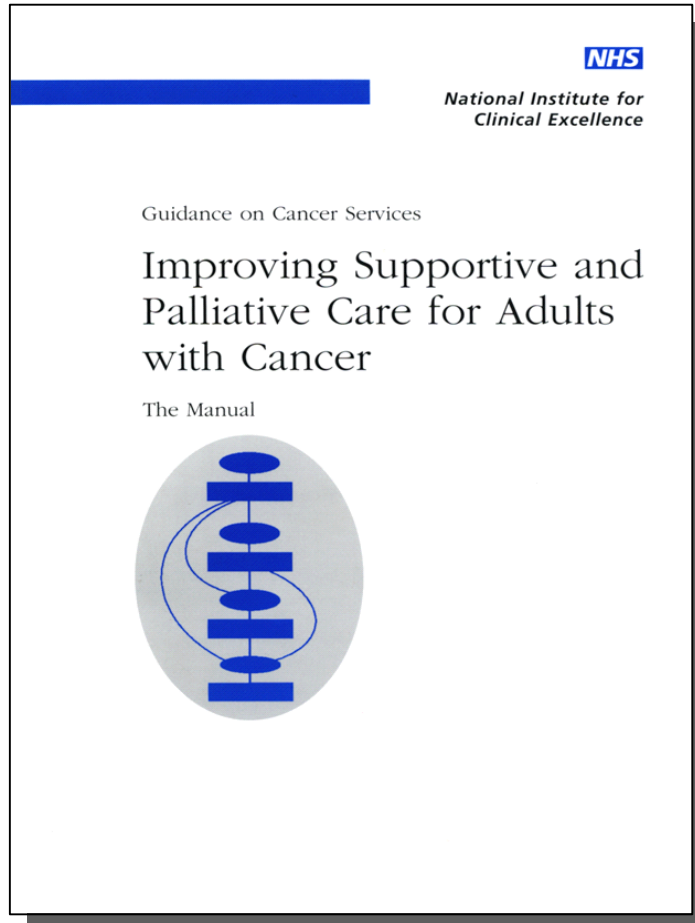


- Complex Interventions; Assessment, Trials and implementation of services in Supportive and Palliative Care Research

Who is or has been involved?



Origins



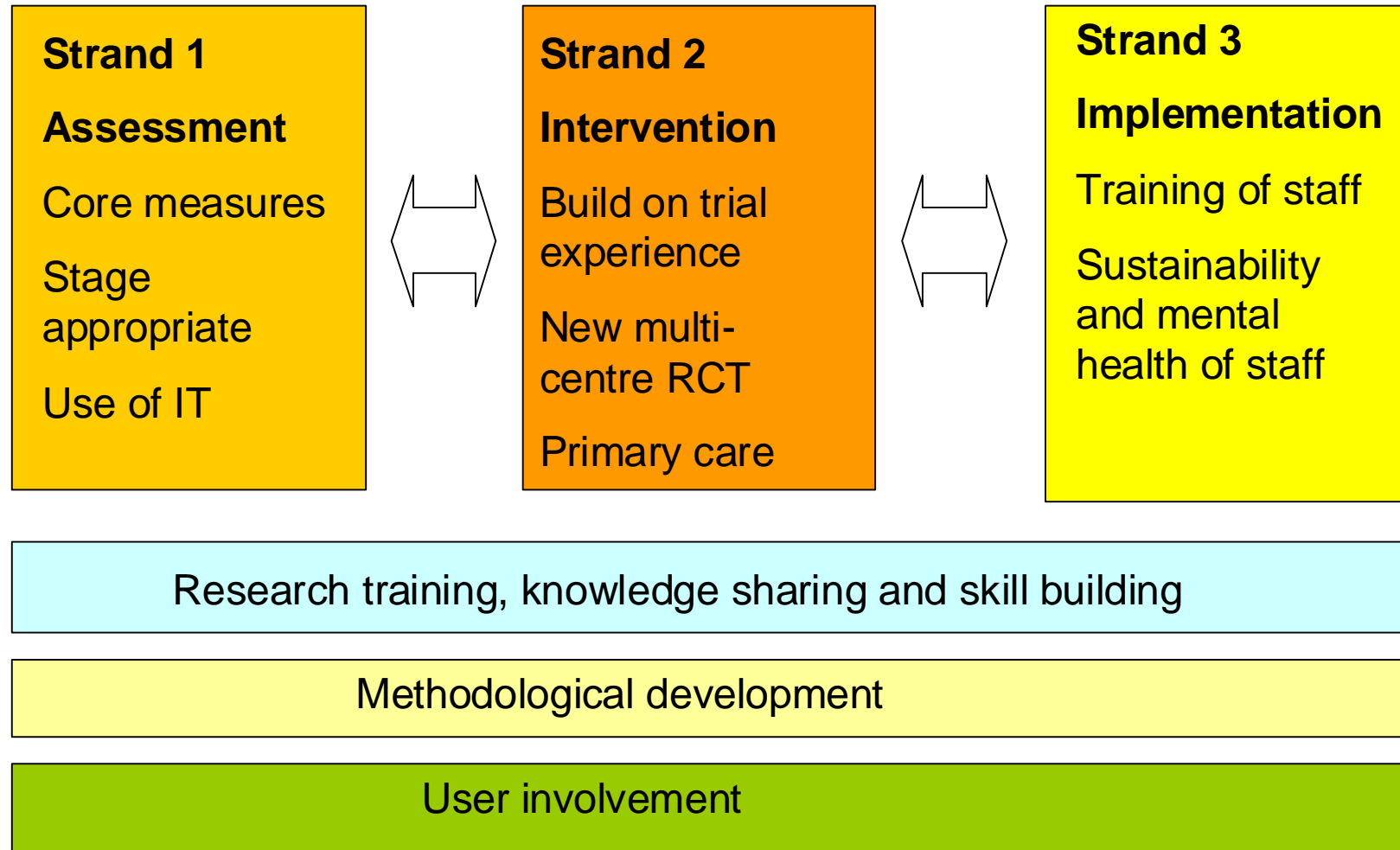
MRC
Medical Research Council

A FRAMEWORK FOR DEVELOPMENT AND EVALUATION OF RCTs FOR COMPLEX INTERVENTIONS TO IMPROVE HEALTH

This document is a discussion document drafted by members of the MRC Health Services and Public Health Research Board. It is intended to provide a framework for individuals considering the evaluation of a complex intervention. It does not set out a set of required steps in carrying out trials in this area.

April 2000

The example of Emotional distress



Strand 1



Assessment and Outcome Measurement

- Appropriate assessment guides effective care
- A core set of appropriate outcome measures is essential for
 - Study design
 - Study funding
 - Influence upon policy
- Measures use for assessment are often repeated to give assessment of change – i.e. outcome measurement

Challenges in assessment of emotional distress in SuPaC

- What is depression?
 - Questions about suitability of some tools among people with advanced cancer (symptoms, looking at the future)
- How is it detected?
- Wide range of screening tools- Lucy Ziegler Poster
- No academic consensus on which to use, when, in whom
- **Limits meta-analysis re: treatment or prevalence**

Strand 1: 5-year research aims

- To agree a standardised core set of assessment and outcome measures
- To determine the best core measures for different stages of illness (around diagnosis, during initial treatment, at home after initial treatment, at relapse and in the terminal phase)
- To determine ways to minimise the burden placed on patients by using psychometric methods to make measures more efficient (usually shorter)
- To develop efficient ways of assessing and monitoring the symptoms and well-being of patients both at hospital and at home

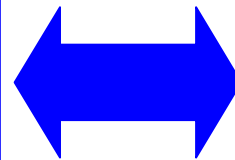
Three components of research to determine core measures

Reviewing and consensus

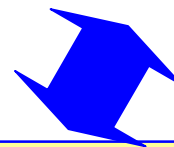
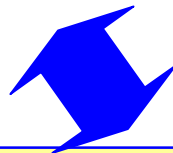
- Conceptual issues
- Psychometric properties
- Practical issues
- Delphi exercise among clinicians and users
- Test with users

Longitudinal study

- Changing trajectory
- Practical issues over time
- Psychometrics over time
- Use of proxies
- Response shift
- GRANT APPLICATION**



Lucy
Ziegler



Analytical

Use data-sets - shortened scales, single items, relationship between scales, handling missing items
ROLE OF 50% STATISTICIAN IN KCL



Gao Wei

EPCRC

<http://www.epcrc.org/>



European Palliative Care Research Collaborative

- eight centres from six European countries
- EU funding for three years
- pain, cachexia and depression
 - assessment and classification
Jon Håvard Loge and Elisabet Wasteson (Trondheim, Norway)
 - clinical guidelines
Irene Higginson, Alison Evans, Matthew Hotopf (Kings College London)

Plan for this afternoon

Discussion of Specific Techniques

Chair- Dan Stark 13:30-14:30

- i) Analysis of Shared Datasets Adam Smith & Gao Wei 13:35
- ii) Adaptation of existing measures with service users Galina Velikova & Clare Harley
13:45
- iii) Discussion

Applications for NIHR programme funding

Chair- David Weller

14:30-15:20

- i) Presentation- 20 minutes Julia Brown (Univ. of Leeds) 14:30
- ii) Discussion

Tea

15:20

Discussion of Consensus Process

Chair- Irene Higginson

15:30-16:30

- i) Delphi and other consensus exercises Lucy Ziegler 15:40
- ii) Discussion , including structure and constituency for Consensus Exercise

Summary and close

Dan Stark

16:30