Adding Value in Research

The UK NIHR's "Adding Value in Research" program: lessons from 6 years of improvement.

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on behalf of the
Cross-NIHR Adding Value in Research working group
1: Understand your purpose
Funded by the UK Departments of Health to improve the health and wealth of the nation through research.
2: Not less bureaucracy – SMART bureaucracy.

Create a logic model; connect to your purpose; make it useful.
3: Build a laser not a flashlight
Mirrors:
Reflection
Monitoring
Audit
learning

Adding Value in Research

Money
Time/Opportunity
Public support
Political support
4: Focus on relevance: 
Set priorities with users of research; e.g. patients, health professionals
5: Focus on quality:
Only embark on new research if it is justified by what is already known
6: Focus on openness:
Register all studies
Publish all research
7,8,9,10: Laser physics is easy, culture is hard
11: Hear the "cant-be-done-ers" but don't necessarily heed what they say
Key messages

Adding Value in research is a way of raising the probability of impact of the portfolio for a given cost

Where to start:
- Set priorities with users of research; e.g. patients, health professionals
- Only embark on new research it is justified by what is already known
- Register all studies
- Publish all research

Building lasers is easy – changing people and organisations is hard. Don’t underestimate that but don’t give up either!

What you can do to start building your “laser”

• Attend symposium 6 tomorrow
• Visit www.nihr.ac.uk/adding-value-in-research
• Think about what small step forwards you could take
• Join the Evidence Based Research Network
• Visit us in the trade exhibition
Adding Value in Research framework

Impact
Benefits through:
- Health and well being
- Knowledge and the research process
- Wealth of the nation

Outcome
Change in:
- Guidance
- Service provision
- Knowledge base
- Research methods

Outputs
Knowledge and the research process

Process

Inputs
Costs
Money
Opportunity
Time
Enthusiasm
Political support

Relevance

Money
Opportunity
Time
Enthusiasm
Political support

Measurement, audit, review, continuous improvement
Easy
Proxy
Proxy
Hard
Impossible