Adding Value in Research: The case of NIHR.

Matt Westmore
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.
Relevance

Inputs
- Costs
  - Money
  - Opportunity
  - Time
  - Enthusiasm
  - Political support

Process
- Adding Value in Research framework

Quality

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

Openness

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

Measurement, audit, review, continuous improvement

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<tr>
<th>Easy</th>
<th>Proxy</th>
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<th>Impossible</th>
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3: Focus on relevance: Set priorities with users of research; e.g. patients, health professionals
James Lind Alliance
Priority Setting Partnerships
Questions relevant to users of research

“The idea of bringing together clinicians, patients and carers to discuss research priorities seems obvious – why shouldn’t all those affected have a chance to jointly discuss frustrations about the things we don’t know, and aspirations for the future?”

- Irenie Ekkeshis, patient involved in the Sight Loss and Vision James Lind Alliance priority setting partnership
4: Focus on quality:
Only embark on new research it is justified by what is already known
5: Focus on openness:
Register all studies
Publish all research
Publication bias

![Bar chart showing publication bias by funder, country, size, and phase. The chart indicates varying percentages of publication across different categories, with UK NIHR HTA programme having the highest percentage.](chart.png)
Achieving full publication

Journals Library

The National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) is the world’s first health research funder to publish comprehensive accounts of its funded research within its own publicly and permanently available journals. Through the NIHR Journals Library, you can see the projects being funded as well as the final published journal reports.
Thank you and further information

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 if it is justified by what is already known
- Register all studies
- Publish all research

What you can do to start building your “laser”
- Visit [www.nihr.ac.uk/adding-value-in-research](http://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
- Contact me”@matt_westmore matthew.westmore@nihr.ac.uk
The UK NIHR's "Adding Value in Research" program: lessons from 6 years of improvement.

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Summary

1. The NIHR

2. Adding Value in Research as a logic model to raise the *probability* of impact of the *portfolio* for a given cost

3. Examples
   - James Lind Alliance Priority Setting Partnerships
   - NIHR Journals Library
Funded by the UK Departments of Health to improve the health and wealth of the nation through research.
Adding Value in Research: a logic model for impact

- **Inputs**
  - Costs
  - Money
  - Opportunity
  - Time
  - Enthusiasm
  - Political support

- **Process**

- **Outputs**
  - Change in:
    - Guidance guidelines
    - Service provision
    - Knowledge base
    - Research methods

- **Outcomes**
  - Benefits through improved:
    - Health and well being
    - Knowledge and the research process
    - Wealth of the nation

- **Impact**

Measurement, audit, review, continuous improvement

- Easy
- Proxy
- Proxy
- Hard
- Impossible

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Adding Value in Research: Raising the probability of impact for a given cost

**Relevance**
Set justifiable research priorities

**Quality**
Robust research design, conduct and analysis

**Openness**
Research methods and findings are accessible, complete and useable

Questions relevant to users of research

Priorities set involving users of research

Appropriate research design, conduct and analysis

Designed to reduce bias

New research set in the context of evidence gaps

Efficient research regulation and delivery

Studies registered at inception

Manage delivery proportionate to risk

Accessible full research reports?

Methods and findings reported in full

Make analysis plans publicly available

Unbiased and useable reports?

Update systematic reviews

Support replication and reuse of data

Disseminate knowledge to end users

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Money
Time/Opportunity
Public support
Political support
Money
Time/Opportunity
Public support
Political support
Adding Value in Research framework

Mirrors:
- Reflection
- Monitoring
- Audit
- Learning

Money
- Time/Opportunity
- Public support
- Political support
Thank you and further information

Key messages

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

Examples:
Set research priorities with the intended beneficiaries of the research
James Lind Alliance – and equal partnership of patients and clinicians to set research priorities

Publish everything!

**What you can do to start building your “laser”**

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