

COOPERATIVE CONTEXT ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

Round 2: External Support

What is the importance of context?

Cooperatives' initiatives are taking place in different settings, and each cooperative has a variety of different partners and stakeholders involved. Understanding these projects requires examination of the contexts in which they arise. This includes paying attention to factors that affect what happens during the study and considering what others would need to know to transport the work elsewhere. Identifying these factors will help future investigators and implementers understand what affected the reach, relevance, implementation, outcomes and generalizability of these projects to enable others to make sense of what happened, for what reason, and in what situation.

What has been done so far?

The ESCALATES qualitative team developed the attached questions adapted from Annals of Family Medicine May/June 2013; 11 (Supplement 1) to elicit Cooperative team members' knowledge about aspects of context, including external explanatory factors, impacting their project. Cooperatives performed a context assessment on the topic of recruitment in Summer 2016. We compiled responses, summarizing key points and themes; these findings are shared in separate document.

What am I supposed to do?

For this second assessment, we ask Cooperative team members to think about how the various levels listed below influenced the external support your team provided to practices and what factors would be helpful to understand if a new location (e.g. Iowa) were going to try to replicate your intervention. For "external support," we are asking you to consider two things: (1) *the tools and activities you were able to work on with practices* and (2) *the methods and techniques you employed to help practices use these tools for quality improvement*, particularly those focused on capacity building and ABCS. In the last row of the table below, labeled "Other," please feel free to add any additional factors that you found that shaped or influenced the external support you provided to practices. **BOTTOM LINE:** We want to understand how particular circumstances in your region influenced your Cooperative to change or adapt your study from the original plans for external support.

After you have answered these questions, please return to Leah Gordon on the ESCALATES team by 3/1/2017.

Who is supposed to fill this out?

As before, ESCALATES encourages a group process to answer the questions below in order to share varied perspectives of different members and roles on your team. It would be helpful to hear the perspective of those working with practices as well as those who conceptualized the intervention and/or who have knowledge about the history and landscape of the region. Please include the names and roles of those who worked on answering the questions below.

What can I expect from ESCALATES next?

You can expect a short summary of cross-Cooperative responses for each context assessment topic.

It is important to assess context at multiple phases of the project so that we can better understand: a) phases or aspects of your study as they are happening and while specific examples of challenges and successes are fresh in your minds, and b) how particular circumstances might influence you to change or adapt your study from your original plans. Therefore, ESCALATES will be contacting you again at two more future time points to ask your team for input on additional topics as your project progresses.

What is the benefit of doing this?

The ESCALATES team will use this information to compare and contrast across Cooperative projects and to inform what others need to know to transport efforts to other settings. We will also use this information to help guide site visit planning. We plan to report relevant contextual factors and how they affected important processes and outcomes.

If you or members of your team have questions, please do not hesitate to contact us. **THANK YOU** for your timely response and on-going collaboration.

COOPERATIVE CONTEXT ASSESSMENT

Round 2: External Support

Common forms of external support are practice facilitation, academic detailing/expert consultation, HIT support, learning collaboratives, peer-to-peer learning, and community linkages, amongst others. We ask you to write about how the **factors below shaped or altered the external support your team provided to practices during your intervention**: i.e., how these factors influenced (1) *the tools and activities you were able to work on with practices* and (2) *the methods and techniques you employed to help practices use these tools for quality improvement*, particularly those focused on capacity building and ABCS.

We also ask that you think about your responses to the questions in each of the categories below when answering the concluding question, **“What key factors would others need to know about your team’s experience to transport or replicate your external support plan in their regions?”** If a category is not applicable, please indicate that with an **“N/A.”** We also leave space for you to fill in any **“Other”** factors that these categories might not encompass at the end.

Please complete the following and return it to [Leah Gordon](#) by 3/1/2017

Contributors

Who contributed in answering these questions? (Please list names and roles)

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Practice Motivations and Expectations [practice context]

How did practice-level motivations and expectations shape or alter the external support your team provided (and the ways they provided it) to practices during the intervention? (e.g., expectations for dashboards or competing demands on practices)

Practice Structure and Ownership [practice context]

How did ownership or structural factors shape or alter the external support your team provided (and the ways they provided it) to practices during the intervention? (e.g., health-system-owned practices, IHS practices, FQHCs, independent practices)

Local Economic and Socio-Cultural Factors [community context]

How did key community factors shape or alter the external support your team provided (and the ways they provided it) to practices during the intervention? (e.g., community resources, culture, values)

Historical Factors or Recent Regional Events [state or national context]

How did historical factors or recent events shape or alter the external support your team provided (and the ways they provided it) to practices during the intervention? (e.g., robust HIEs, history of extension work or strong PBRN networks, mergers or closures of important regional organizations)

Economic or Public Policy [state or national context]

How did state or national economic or public policy factors shape or alter the external support your team provided (and the ways they provided it) to practices during the intervention? (e.g., lack of Medicaid expansion, MACRA/MIPS, administration changes)

Cooperative Team Organization or Key Stakeholders [cooperative context]

How did cooperative team organizational or key stakeholder factors shape or alter the external support your team provided (and the ways they provided it) to practices during the intervention? (e.g., partner strengths, stakeholder relationships with practices)

Other Factors

What other factors (i.e., technological, geographical, other initiatives, etc.) influenced the external support your team provided (and the ways they provided it) to practices during the intervention? How was delivery of various types of external support shaped by context (at any level)?

Concluding Reflections

What key factors would others need to know about your team's experience to transport or replicate your external support plan in their regions?

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME!