

Incorporating health equity domains in implementation determinant frameworks

R. Sonia Singh, PhD
Central Arkansas Veterans Healthcare System
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences



RSSingh@uams.edu
Rajinder.Singh2@va.gov



Acknowledgements & Disclaimer

- Dr. Eva Woodward and Implementation Science for Health Equity Lab
- Dr. Singh is funded through the Center for Mental Healthcare and Outcomes Research at the Central Arkansas Veterans Healthcare System and Center for Health Services Research University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences.

The views expressed in this presentation do not necessarily reflect the position or policy of the Department of Veterans Affairs or the United States Government.

Health differences	Health disparity	Health equity
differences in health outcomes between two groups, based on a specific characteristic (e.g., height) ¹	“Not all health differences are health disparities;” health disparities are concerned with social justice ²	“Health equity is the principle underlying a commitment to reduce, and ultimately, eliminate disparities in health and in its determinants, including social determinants.” ²

Equality



Equity

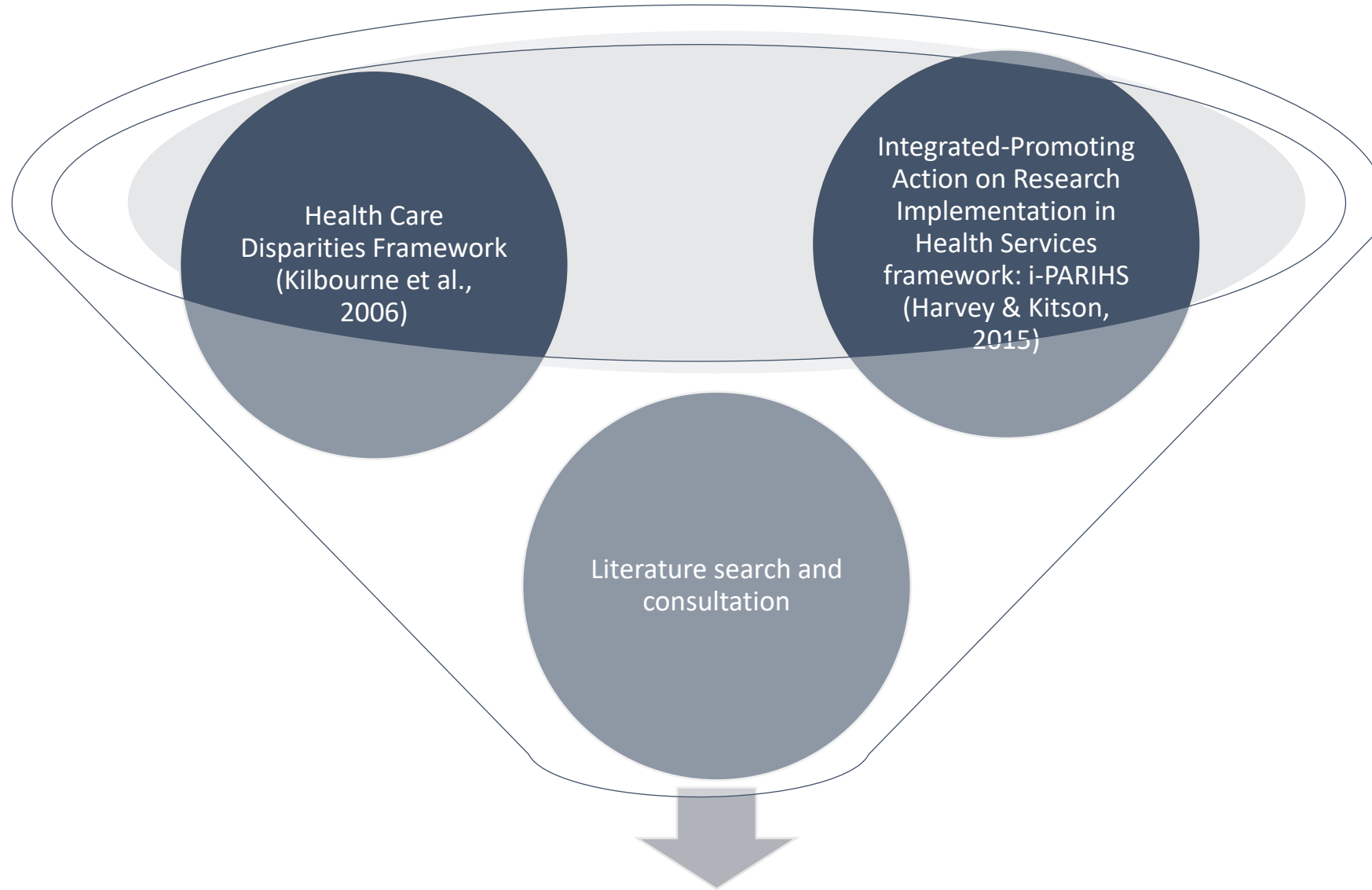


3 Types of Implementation Science Frameworks

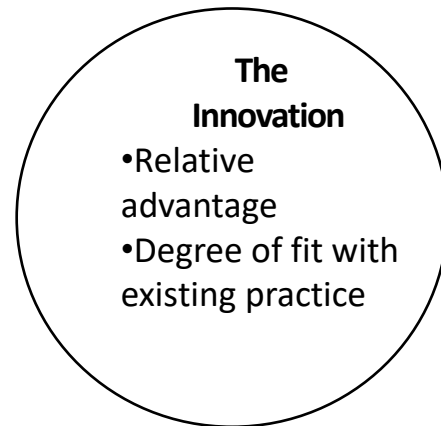
1. Determinant - What are barriers and why?

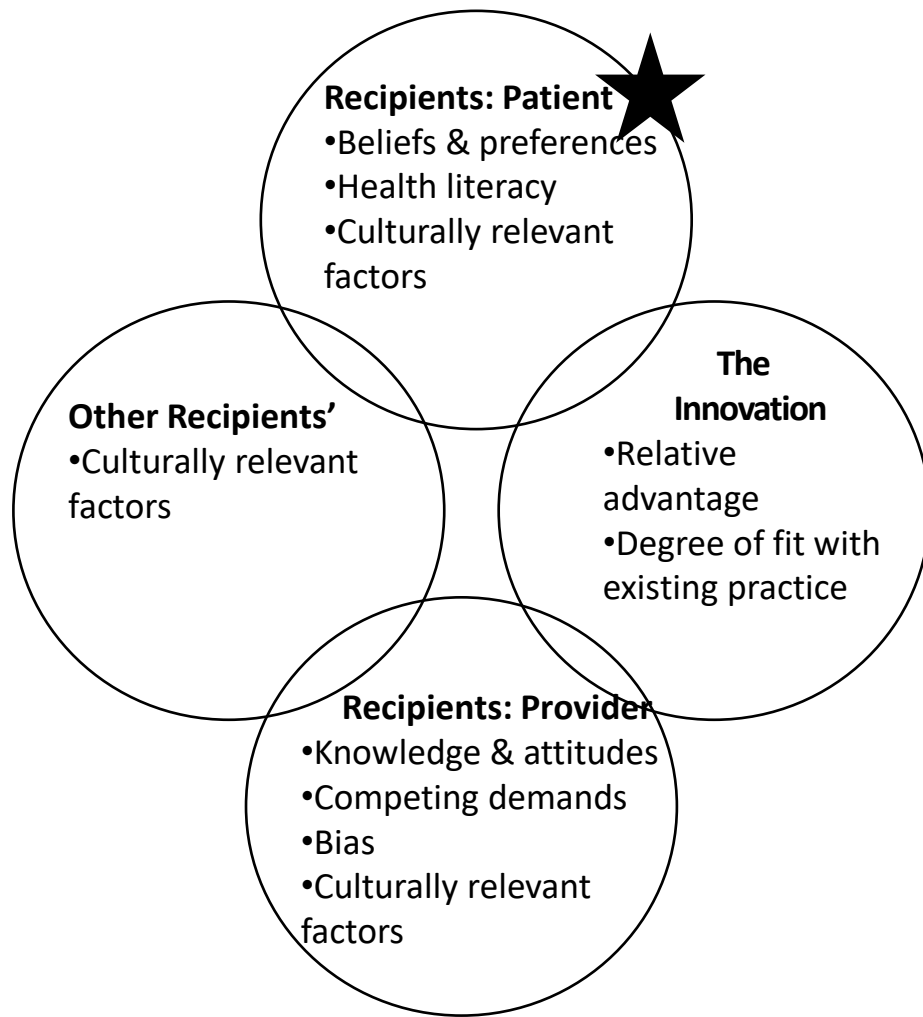
2. Process – Planning: How is this thing going to get implemented?

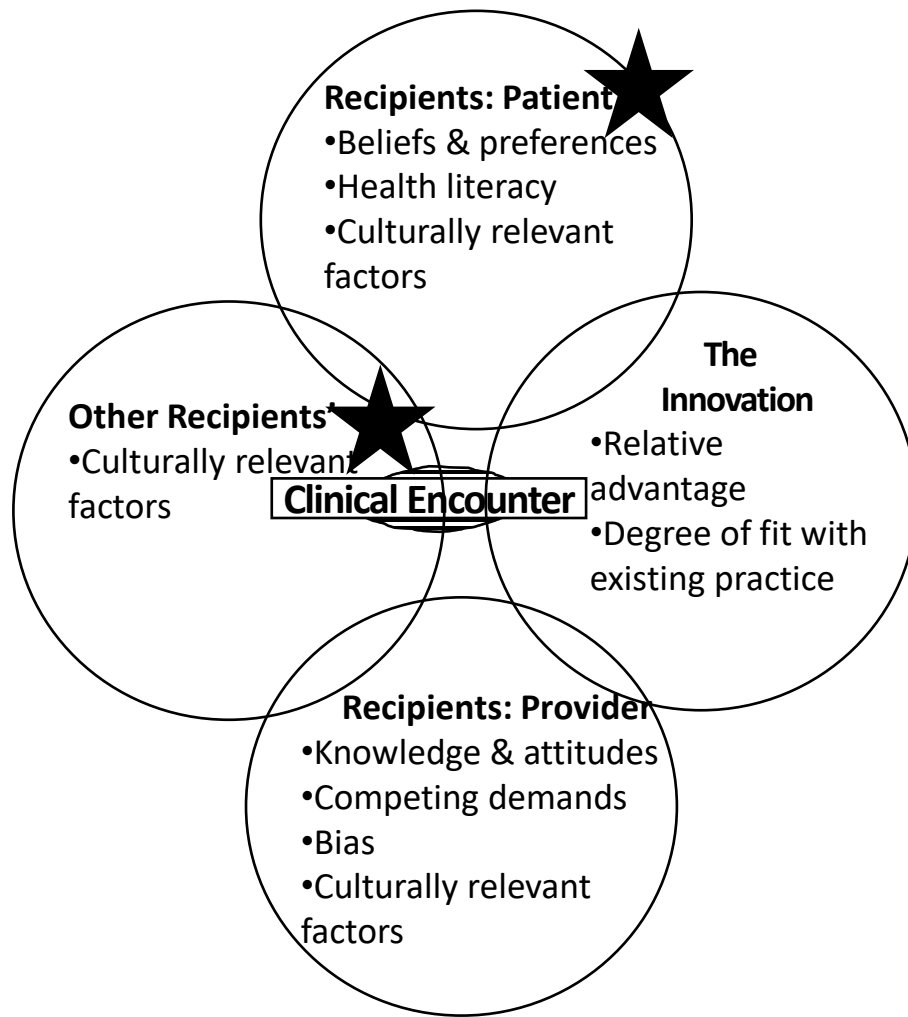
3. Evaluation - Did implementation succeed or fail?

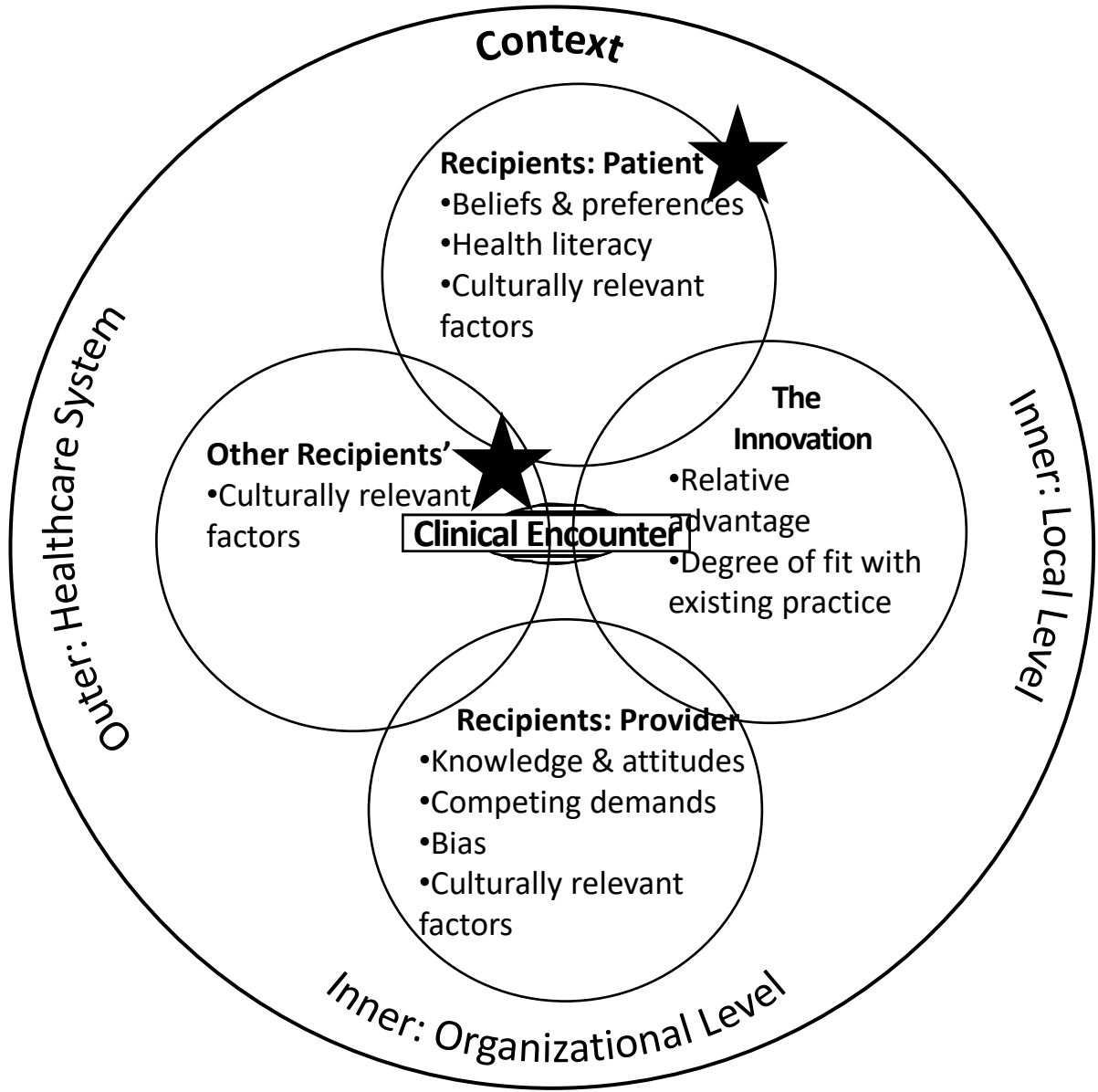


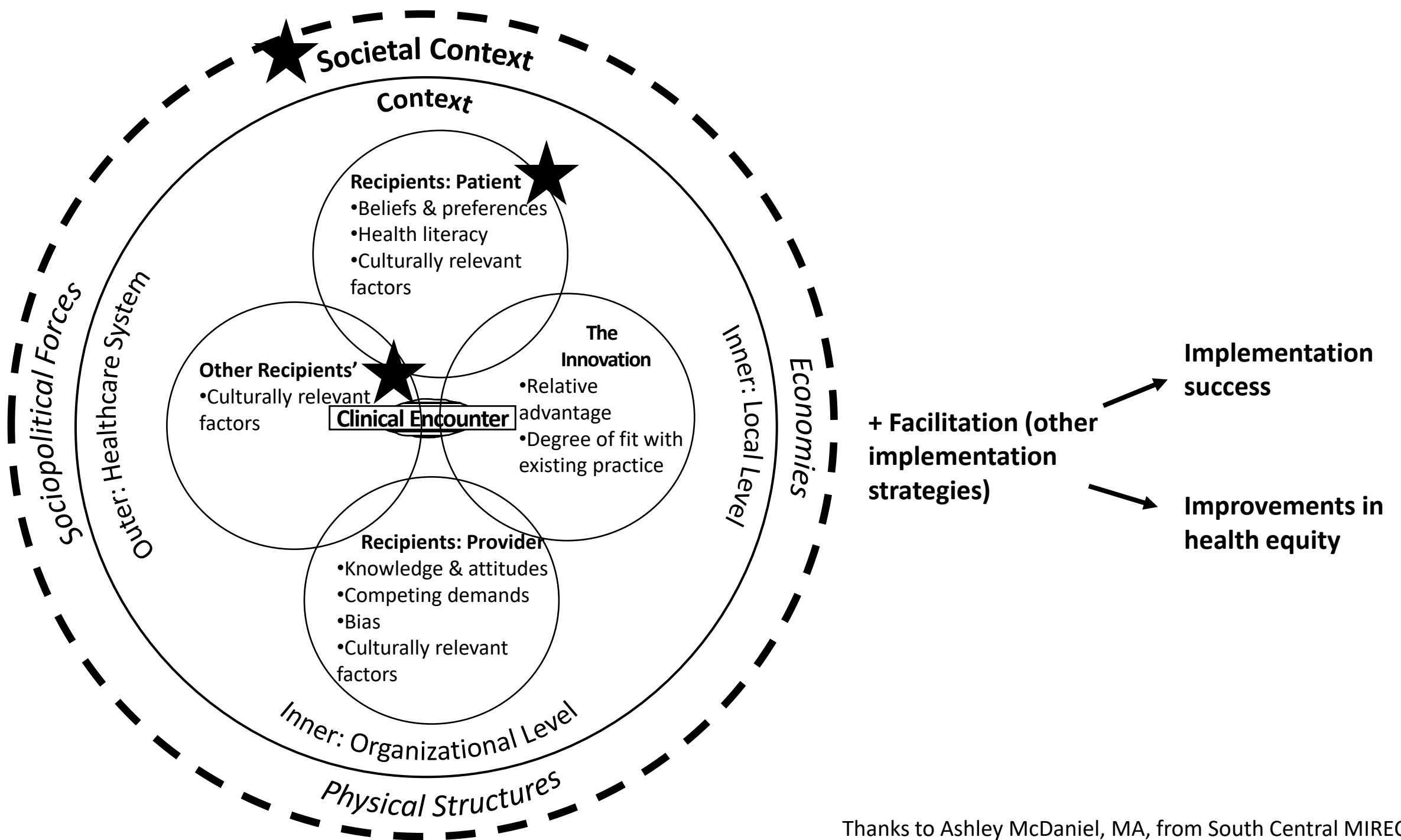
Health Equity Implementation Framework











Thanks to Ashley McDaniel, MA, from South Central MIRECC

Assess 3 health equity determinants in any implementation effort

- ★ 1. Culturally relevant factors of recipients (patients, providers, staff)
- ★ 2. Clinical encounter
- ★ 3. Societal context (economic factors, social norms, policies, laws, physical structures, social determinants of health)

METHODOLOGY

A More Practical Guide to Incorporating Health Equity Domains in Implementation Determinant Frameworks

› Eva N Woodward, Rajinder Sonia Singh, Phiwinhlanhla Ndebele-Ngwenya, Andrea Melgar Castillo, Kelsey S. Dickson, JoAnn E Kirchner

Determinant

1. Culturally Relevant Factors of Recipients

- Demographic match patient-provider
- Provider bias
- Patient mistrust
- Patient health literacy
- Many more

Sample Measures and Methods

- Chart reviews to calculate demographic match patient-provider
- Medical Mistrust Index
- Health literacy scale: [PhenX Toolkit](#)
- Individual interviews

Culturally Relevant Factors

- Veteran
 - Do you have a general sense of the last provider you saw, and their beliefs related to LGBTQ+ Veterans?
- LGBTQ+ Veteran Care Coordinator
 - Do you have a general sense of providers' beliefs related to LGBTQ+ Veterans? Non-providers?
- Provider
 - Is there anything about LGBT Veterans from [your city/state/area] that can sometimes create barriers to delivering appropriate or high-quality LGBT-affirming care?

Determinant

3. Clinical Encounter

Sample Measures and Methods

- Audio record encounters - Roter Interaction Analysis System
- Observe sample of encounters
- Interviews of patient and provider perceptions
- Chart review of documentation

Clinical Encounter

- Veteran
 - Are there any providers or staff you interact with who you feel like are very affirming to your identity as [Veteran's self-described sexual orientation and/or gender identity]?
 - What exactly do they do to make you feel this way?
- LGBTQ+ Veteran Care Coordinator
 - Have providers at your VA shared any concerns with you related to providing LGBTQ+ affirming care?
- Provider
 - Have you ever you felt unsure or confused during a clinical encounter with a patient who identifies as LGBTQ+?

Determinant

3. Societal Context

- Economies
- Physical structures
- Sociopolitical forces
- Social determinants of health

Sample Measures and Methods

- Insurance claims data
- Observation of physical structures
- Document review of organizational policies
- State-Level Racism Index
- Social determinants: [PhenX Toolkit](#)

Societal Contexts

- Ask of all three groups (Veteran, LGBTQ+ Veteran Care Coordinator, and Providers)
 - Can you think of any factors outside of the VA system that may impact the care you receive as a Veteran who identifies as [Veteran's self-described sexual orientation and/or gender identity]/may impact care for LGBTQ+ Veterans?

Thank you for listening!

R. Sonia Singh, PhD

South Central Mental Illness Research, Education and Clinical Center
Central Arkansas Veterans Healthcare System
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences



RSSingh@uams.edu
Rajinder.Singh2@va.gov

