1. Who are stakeholders and what is engagement?
2. Why engage stakeholders in reviews?
3. When and how should they be engaged?
4. Equity considerations
5. Ongoing work: Multi-Stakeholder Engagement Consortium
Who are stakeholders?

“... an individual or group who is responsible for or affected by health- and healthcare-related decisions” (Concannon et al. 2019).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stakeholder groups</th>
<th>10 P’s framework (MuSE, 2022)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Patients, caregivers, and patient organizations</td>
<td>Principal investigators (&amp; their research teams)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public</td>
<td>Peer review editors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Providers of care</td>
<td>Payers of health services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Policymakers</td>
<td>Payers of research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program managers</td>
<td>Product makers</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
What is engagement?

- “…defined as active partnership between stakeholders and researchers in production of new healthcare knowledge and evidence.” (Frank et al., 2020)

- … resulting in “informed decision-making about the selection, conduct, and use of the research” (Concannon et al., 2012).

- Engagement may also be termed collaboration, involvement, or partnership (Petkovic et al., 2020).
Why engage stakeholders in reviews?

- Identify evidence gaps and refine scope
- Avoid research waste
- Address barriers to the uptake of evidence
- Increase dissemination and utilization of findings
- Help make recommendations for research
- Make research more relevant, of higher quality and have a greater impact on healthcare
- Reduce health and social inequities.
- Influence review findings, contributing to a more equitable evidence base

“the insights they provide are the key to ethical decision making, which is the only sustainable solution to inequities”

(Cellier 2021; Dewidar 2022 [preprint]; Harris 2016; Petkovic 2020)
### Factors to Consider During Identification and Invitation of Individuals in a Multi-stakeholder Research Partnership

#### Highly desirable:

1. Ability and willingness to represent stakeholder group
2. Commitment and time capacity
3. Communication skills
4. Financial and non-financial relationships and activities, and conflicts of interest
5. Expertise or experience
6. Inclusivity (equity, diversity, and intersectionality)
7. Training, support, and funding needs.

#### Desirable:

1. Influence
2. Previous stakeholder engagement
3. Research relevant values.

(Parker et al., 2022)
How to engage?

Engagement ladder: who has the power? whose agenda is it?

- Co-production
- Co-design
- Engagement
- Consultation
- Informing
- Educating
- Coercion

- Doing with in a equal and reciprocal partnership
- Doing For engaging and involving people
- Doing To trying to fix people who are passive recipients of service

Decision making
Advice or feedback

Armstein / NEF
When to engage?

➢ When determining team composition, roles and decision-making authority
➢ When selecting your topic and developing your review question
➢ When selecting grey literature sources and evidence databases
➢ When presenting outcome data in a way that can inform stakeholder needs
➢ When interpreting contextually specific findings

(Dewidar et al., 2022 [preprint])
Equity considerations

- Begins with team formation; equity values should be formulated as part of the team values and culture.
- Research team members should participate in Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) training.
- Including people with lived experience as part of the team.
- Ensure power balances are addressed and emphasize equitable decision making.
- Providing the time, resources, and support required for meaningful engagement.
In August, 2021, our team, led by Peter Tugwell, Vivian Welch, and Maureen Smith, received funding for a 4 year project to:

1. Develop guidance on **methods** of stakeholder engagement in systematic reviews, including in systematic review priority setting, conduct, and knowledge translation.

2. Develop or adapt existing **reporting guidelines** for stakeholder engagement in systematic reviews.

3. Develop guidance on methods of **evaluating** stakeholder engagement in systematic review priority setting, conduct, and knowledge translation.
Upcoming work: MuSE Consortium

**STEP 1: Systematic reviews**
- SR of methods
- SR of barriers/facilitators
- SR of existing guidance
- SR of impact

**STEP 2: Interviews and survey**
- Key informant interviews
- International survey
- Draft guidance

**STEP 3: Consensus activities**
- Consensus meeting
- Guidance documents

**Step 4: Dissemination**
- Uptake by relevant organizations
- Shared via conferences and social media

**INTEGRATED KNOWLEDGE TRANSLATION**
Want to learn more or join the MuSE Consortium?

1. Visit our website

2. Read our publications

3. Contact: Jennifer Petkovic
   a. jennifer.petkovic@uottawa.ca

https://methods.cochrane.org/equity/projects/multi-stakeholder-engagement-muse
References


