

		About clinical & public health issues	About health system issues
Clarifying a problem	1	What is the problem (and its causes)? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A risk factor, disease or condition • A program, service or drug being used • Current health system (governance, financial and delivery) arrangements within which programs, services and drugs are provided • Current degree of implementation of an agreed course of action 	
	2	How did the problem come to attention and has this process influenced the prospect of it being addressed?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • e.g., for Canada www.cihi.ca for national health and healthcare utilization databases • e.g., for all countries www.lexisnexis.com/hottopics/lnacademic/ for media coverage of health issues
	3	What indicators can be used, or collected, to establish the magnitude of the problem and to measure progress in addressing it?	
	4	What comparisons can be made to establish the magnitude of the problem and to measure progress in addressing it?	
	5	How can a problem be framed (or described) in a way that will motivate different groups?	PubMed HSR Queries www.nlm.nih.gov/nichsr/hedges/search.html <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Process assessment • Outcomes assessment
		PubMed HSR Queries www.nlm.nih.gov/nichsr/hedges/search.html <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Qualitative research 	
Framing options	1	Has an appropriate set of options been identified to address the problem (within one or more of the areas where problems were identified)? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introducing, changing or discontinuing a program, service or drug • Introducing, changing or discontinuing a health system arrangement that contributes to whether the right mix of programs, services and drugs get to those who need them • Implementing an agreed course of action 	
	2	What benefits are important to those who will be affected and which benefits are likely to be achieved with each option?	Health Systems Evidence for health system arrangements www.healthsystemsevidence.org
	3	What harms are important to those who will be affected and which harms are likely to arise with each option?	
	4	What are the local costs of each option and is there local evidence about their cost-effectiveness ?	
	5	What adaptations might be made to any given option and might they alter its benefits, harms and costs?	
	6	Which stakeholders' views and experiences might influence the acceptability of an option and its benefits, harms and costs?	
		Cochrane Library for clinical programs, services and drugs www.cochranelibrary.com	
		Health Evidence for public health programs and services www.healthevidence.org	
		Cochrane Library for economic evaluations of any option www.cochranelibrary.com	
		PubMed HSR Queries www.nlm.nih.gov/nichsr/hedges/search.html <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Qualitative research 	
Identifying Implementation Considerations	1	What are the potential barriers to and facilitators of the successful implementation of the policy or program (at each of the following levels)? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patients/citizens (e.g., awareness of the availability of a free program) • Health workers (e.g., adherence to guidelines) • Organizations (e.g., performance management) • Systems (e.g., enforcement of regulations) 	
	2	What strategies should be considered in order to facilitate the necessary behavioural changes among patients/citizens ?	Health Systems Evidence for implementation strategies www.healthsystemsevidence.org
	3	What strategies should be considered in order to facilitate the necessary behavioural changes among health workers ?	
	4	What strategies should be considered in order to facilitate the necessary organizational changes ?	
	5	What strategies should be considered in order to facilitate the necessary system changes ?	
For systematic reviews : <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What's the quality (AMSTAR) score? 2. How locally applicable are the key messages? 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “user fees” ≠ user fees • (doctor AND nurse) OR pharmacist ≠ doctor AND (nurse OR pharmacist) • nurs* = nurse OR nurses OR nursing

SUPPORT tools available at www.healthsystemsevidence.org

Citation: Lavis JN. Finding and using research evidence. Hamilton, Canada: McMaster Health Forum; 2016.

V20130408

Document last updated on 01 April 2016 | © 2016 McMaster Health Forum