

African Evidence Youth League: Introduction to EIDM

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What is EIDM to you?



Definition of EIDM

EIDM; Evidence-Informed Decision-Making

“EIDM refers to the **process** whereby **multiple sources of information**, including the **best available research evidence**, are consulted before making a decision to plan, implement and (where relevant) revise policies, programs and other services” (Steward et al 2017)

Definition of EIDM



National Collaborating Centre for Methods and Tools (NCCMT)

Best Evidence for Best Practice Decision Making

Some Key Concepts: Evidence

Evidence: a body of facts used to support a claim or a belief to be true or valid



Some Key Concepts: Evidence

Scientific research evidence: Facts systematically and transparently collected and analyzed using explicit methods to address a specific research question that can be replicated and judged by its methodological standard

In the form of primary studies (primary research), synthesis of existing evidence (secondary research), and evidence products such as guidelines or evidence briefs for policy (EBPs)

Some Key Concepts: Evidence

Tacit evidence : A little bit informal,

Comes from opinions, values and habits of policy-makers, clinicians, patients or citizens

Different forms; in formal deliberative dialogues, on websites, in policy documents, reports, and other formats

Some Key Concepts: Evidence

Tacit evidence and scientific research evidence are complementary in nature

Tacit evidence help support, complement or assess the appropriateness of scientific research evidence

Some Key Concept: Research

Research: “ A scientific approach of answering a research question, solving a problem or generating new knowledge through a systematic and orderly collection, organization, and analysis of information with an ultimate goal of making the research useful in decision-making.” (Syed Muhammad Sajjad Kabir 2018)

Some Key Concepts: Evidence Ecosystem

Formal and informal linkages and interactions between actors with their capacities and resources in the production, translation and use of research evidence.(WHO 2022)

Some Key Concept: Hierarchy of Evidence for EIDM

How do we know
what source of
evidence to use in
making decision?
Does one source of
evidence have
higher quality
than the other?



Some Key Concept: Hierarchy of Evidence for EIDM

These sources are ranked based on the rigor of their research method in each study design

The greater the number of high-quality studies included in analysis and the more rigorous the study design is, the higher is the evidence rating



Some Key Concept: Hierarchy of Evidence for EIDM

Systematic review are ranked as the strongest because it synthesizes multiple studies; comprehensively, systematically and transparently. The search and synthesize is done in a reproduceable manner



Some Key Concept: Hierarchy of Evidence for EIDM

Meta analysis is the statistical combination of the results of multiple studies



Some Key Concept: Hierarchy of Evidence for EIDM

RCT is robust in its methodology.

Key characteristic is the random assignment of participants in the control and treatment group, quite strong in assessing the effectiveness of an intervention



Some Key Concept: Hierarchy of Evidence for EIDM

You could do more reading on the rest...





Some Key Concept: Hierarchy of Evidence for EIDM

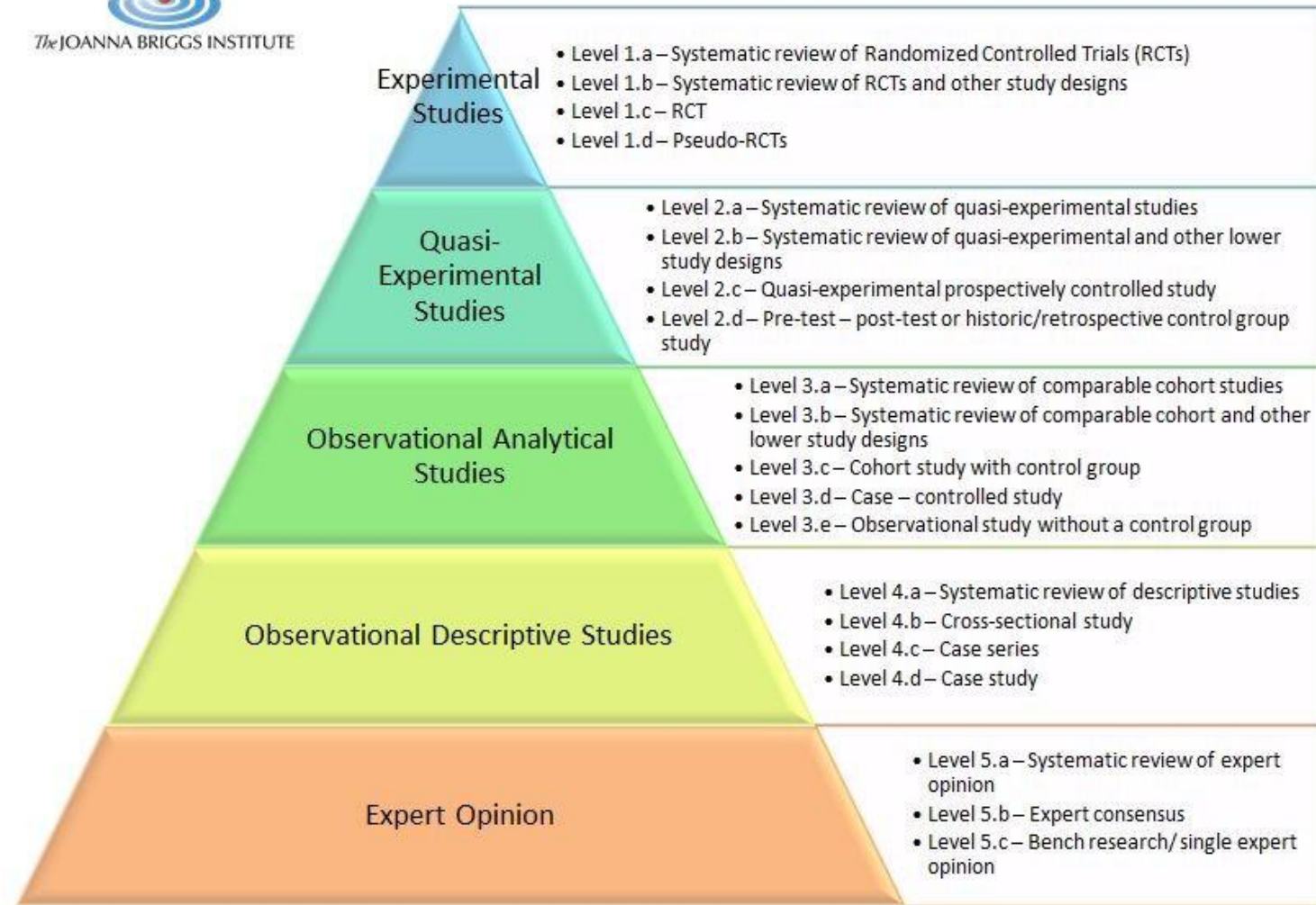
There is criticism as to why evidence from experimental studies comes ahead of observational studies .

This is because a study design is mostly relevant to the question to be answered and in some cases, observational studies may be more valuable

Question of effectiveness will be best answered using systematic review of RCTs and RCTs

Understanding how an intervention works will be best answered though systematic review of qualitative studies

The appropriateness of evidence to answer a particular question is core in EIDM



Process of EIDM

The practice of EIDM considers the generation and use of evidence that is feasible, appropriate, effective and meaningful to a specific context and population



Process of EIDM

Feasible: is the intervention or activity physically, financially or culturally possible/doable within a context? e.g. provide books to each household in tokumbere to reduce the rate of out of school girls. It could be a problem of poverty, cultural problem...they might never use those books

Appropriate: how an intervention fits within a context or relates to the context e.g. sharing condoms to young girls in a Muslim community to fight teenage pregnancy

Process of EIDM

Meaningful: the extent to which an intervention can be positively experienced by the population e.g. beating children who fail their test to increase academic results

Effective: how the intervention yielded the intended outcome on the population

Process of EIDM

Define the problem (evidence need)

Generate evidence

Synthesize

transfer

Implement

evaluate

JBIModel of Evidence Informed Healthcare



Overarching principles

Culture - Capacity - Communication - Collaboration

Best Evidence for Best Practice Decision Making

Process of EIDM

What are the issues in the community/what are the causes of those issues?

What does research say?

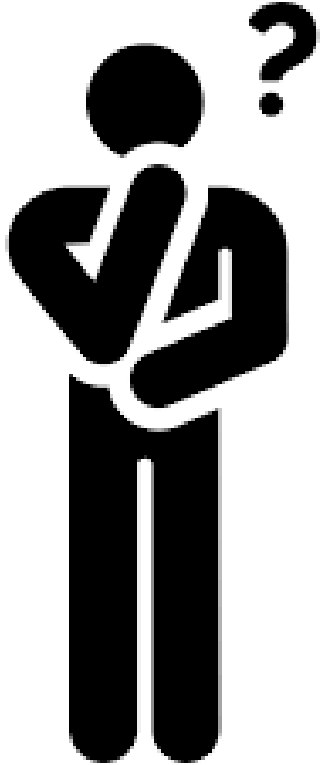
Does this align with the interest of policy makers ?

Does this align with the values, needs and preferences of the community members?

Is there enough resources ?



Reflections

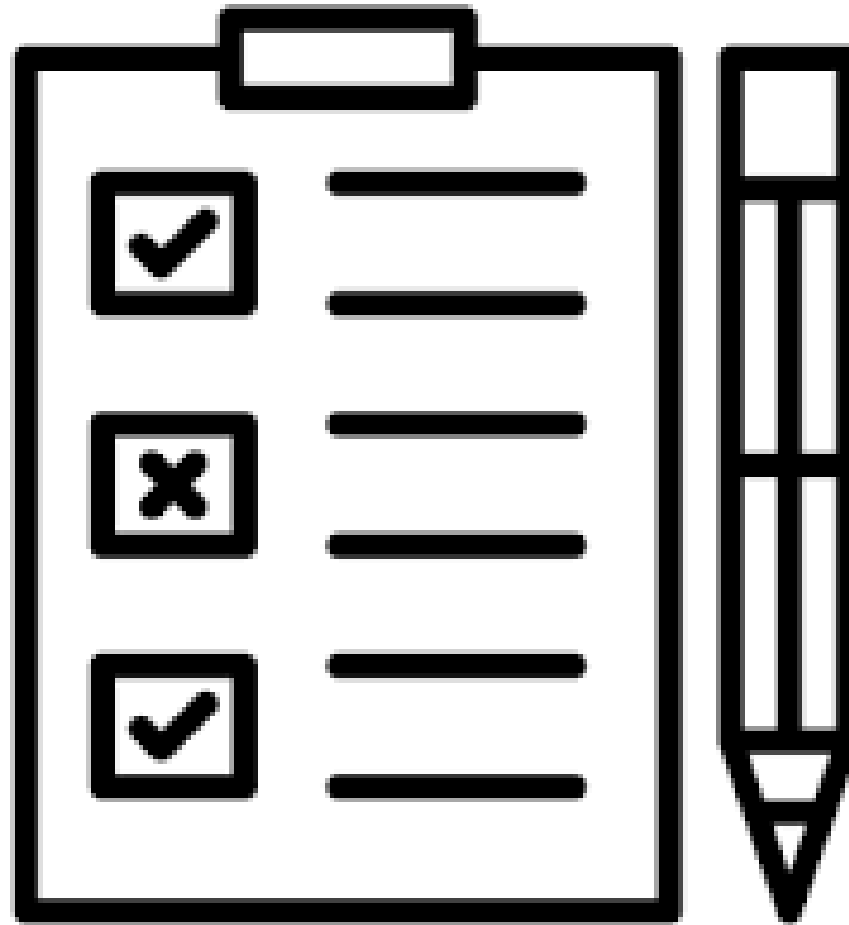


From the above definition can we say EIDM is a practice in the decision-making process in our different sectors?

How is decision generally done in our sector?

Exercise: Need Assessment

20 Minutes



Value of EIDM

In our day-to-day life, policy makers, practitioners, citizens are on the crossroad of decision making.

They ramble with the question of how do we make the right choices? How do we know we are making the right choices?

The success of every policy, program, practices depends on the decision made.



Value of EIDM

EIDM ensures the implementation of cost efficient and effective interventions

Careful use of scarce resources

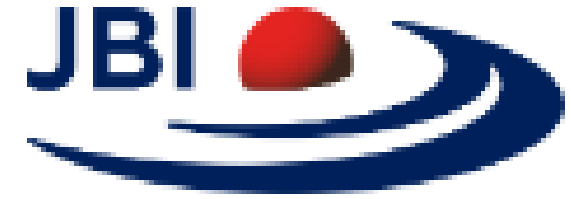
Accountability and transparency in the decision-making process

Equity; Marginalized groups are seen, heard and included in the decision-making process

How to integrate the EIDM Ecosystem and support the EIDM movement

Join/engage with EIDM organizations and platforms in Africa and beyond

- Membership
- Access to resources
- Join twitter and LinkedIn, follow EIDM actors and institutions to get updates on EIDM conferences, online webinars, workshops, career opportunities etc



How to integrate the EIDM Ecosystem and support the EIDM movement

Start EIDM practices

Publish your academic works in peered review journal

Conduct more rigorous research/ systematic review instead of literature review

Funds! Apply for grants to carry your research work/ publish and present

Advocate for EIDM practices in your academic institutions

Pursuing EIDM career PATH

What career path exist for these different stages of EIDM?

How does my present professional work/academic work fit here?

How can I link my present professional work/academic work to EIDM?



Next steps

WhatsApp group (to share links to webinars,
support one another, share EIDM resources)

Twitter/ LinkedIn accounts

Add participants to the REAP Platform

Focus Group Discussions





**Thank
you for
your kind
Attention**