Process and Outcome Constructs for Evaluating Community Based Participatory Research Projects: A Matrix of Existing Measures and Measurement Tools

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Abstract

Community-Based Participatory Research (CBPR) has been widely used in the last decade as an approach to develop culturally-centered interventions and research which resonates with communities. Little is known, however, about CBPR pathways of change and how these academic-community collaborations may contribute to successful outcomes. A new CBPR conceptual model suggests relationships between four components of the CBPR model: contextual factors; partner group dynamics; the extent of community-centeredness in intervention and research design; and the impact of these participatory processes on CBPR system change and health outcomes. This article seeks to identify instruments and measures in a systematic literature review that relate to these distinct components of the CBPR model and to present them in an organized and indexed format for researcher use. Group dynamics proved to have the largest number of identified measures, while contextual factors and CBPR system and health outcomes had the least. Consistent with other summaries of instruments, such as Granner and Sharpe’s inventory, validity and reliability information were often lacking. This summary of measures provides a place to start for new and continuing partnerships seeking to evaluate their progress.
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