

# Finding and using research evidence

## Summary sheet



		About clinical & public health issues	About health and social system issues
Clarifying a problem	1	What is the <b>problem</b> (and its causes)? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A risk factor or condition</li> <li>• A program, service or product being used</li> <li>• Current health- and social-system (governance, financial and delivery) arrangements within which programs, services and products are provided</li> <li>• Current degree of implementation of an agreed course of action</li> </ul>	
	2	How did the problem come to <b>attention</b> and has this process influenced the prospect of it being addressed? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• e.g., for Canada <a href="http://www.cihi.ca">www.cihi.ca</a> for national health and healthcare utilization databases</li> <li>• e.g., for all countries <a href="http://www.lexisnexis.com/hottopics/lnacademic/">www.lexisnexis.com/hottopics/lnacademic/</a> for media coverage of health and social issues</li> </ul>	
	3	What <b>indicators</b> can be used, or collected, to establish the magnitude of the problem and to measure progress in addressing it?	
	4	<b>PubMed HSR Queries</b> <a href="http://www.nlm.nih.gov/nichsr/hedges/search.html">www.nlm.nih.gov/nichsr/hedges/search.html</a> → Process assessment → Outcomes assessment	<b>Health Systems Evidence</b> for health-system arrangements <a href="http://www.healthsystemsevidence.org">www.healthsystemsevidence.org</a> <b>Social Systems Evidence</b> for social challenges and social-system arrangements <a href="http://www.socialsystemsevidence.org">www.socialsystemsevidence.org</a>
	5	<b>PubMed HSR Queries</b> <a href="http://www.nlm.nih.gov/nichsr/hedges/search.html">www.nlm.nih.gov/nichsr/hedges/search.html</a> → Qualitative research	
Framing options	1	Has an appropriate set of <b>options</b> been identified to address the problem (within one or more of the areas where problems were identified)? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introducing, changing or discontinuing a program, service or product</li> <li>• Introducing, changing or discontinuing a health- or social-system arrangement that contributes to whether the right mix of programs, services and products get to those who need them</li> <li>• Implementing an agreed course of action</li> </ul>	
	2	<b>ACCESSSS (or Cochrane Library)</b> for clinical programs, services and drugs <a href="http://www.accessss.org">www.accessss.org</a> (or <a href="http://www.cochranelibrary.com">www.cochranelibrary.com</a> )	<b>Health Systems Evidence</b> for health system arrangements <a href="http://www.healthsystemsevidence.org">www.healthsystemsevidence.org</a> <b>Social Systems Evidence</b> for social challenges and social-system arrangements <a href="http://www.socialsystemsevidence.org">www.socialsystemsevidence.org</a>
	3	<b>Health Evidence</b> for public health programs and services <a href="http://www.healthevidence.org">www.healthevidence.org</a>	
	4	<b>ACCESSSS (or PubMed HSR Queries)</b> for economic evaluations of any option <a href="http://www.accessss.org">www.accessss.org</a> (or <a href="http://www.nlm.nih.gov/nichsr/hedges/search.html">www.nlm.nih.gov/nichsr/hedges/search.html</a> ) → Costs or economics)	
	5	<b>PubMed HSR Queries</b> <a href="http://www.nlm.nih.gov/nichsr/hedges/search.html">www.nlm.nih.gov/nichsr/hedges/search.html</a> → Qualitative research	
	6		
	Which stakeholders' <b>views and experiences</b> might influence the acceptability of an option and its benefits, harms and costs?		

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Identifying implementation considerations	1	What are the potential <b>barriers</b> to and <b>facilitators</b> of the successful implementation of the policy or program (at each of the following levels)? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Patients/citizens (e.g., awareness of the availability of a free program)</li> <li>• Providers (e.g., adherence to guidelines)</li> <li>• Organizations (e.g., performance management)</li> <li>• Systems (e.g., enforcement of regulations)</li> </ul>		
	2	<b>Health Systems Evidence</b> for implementation strategies in health systems <a href="http://www.healthsystemsevidence.org">www.healthsystemsevidence.org</a>  <b>Social Systems Evidence</b> for implementation strategies in social systems <a href="http://www.socialsystemsevidence.org">www.socialsystemsevidence.org</a>		
	3			What strategies should be considered in order to facilitate the necessary behavioural changes among <b>patients/citizens</b> ?
	4			What strategies should be considered in order to facilitate the necessary behavioural changes among <b>providers</b> ?
	5			What strategies should be considered in order to facilitate the necessary <b>organizational changes</b> ?
	What strategies should be considered in order to facilitate the necessary <b>system changes</b> ?			
For <b>systematic reviews</b> : 1. What's the <b>quality</b> (AMSTAR) score? 2. How <b>locally applicable</b> are the key messages?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "user fees" ≠ user fees</li> <li>• (doctor AND nurse) OR pharmacist ≠ doctor AND (nurse OR pharmacist)</li> <li>• nurs* = nurse OR nurses OR nursing</li> </ul>	

SUPPORT tools available at [www.mcmasterforum.org](http://www.mcmasterforum.org)

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