

Stakeholder engagement in systematic reviews

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Outline

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).

Stakeholder groups : 10 P's framework (MuSE, 2022)

Patients, caregivers, and patient organizations	Principal investigators (& their research teams)
Public	Peer review editors
Providers of care	Payers of health services
Policymakers	Payers of research
Program managers	Product makers

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.

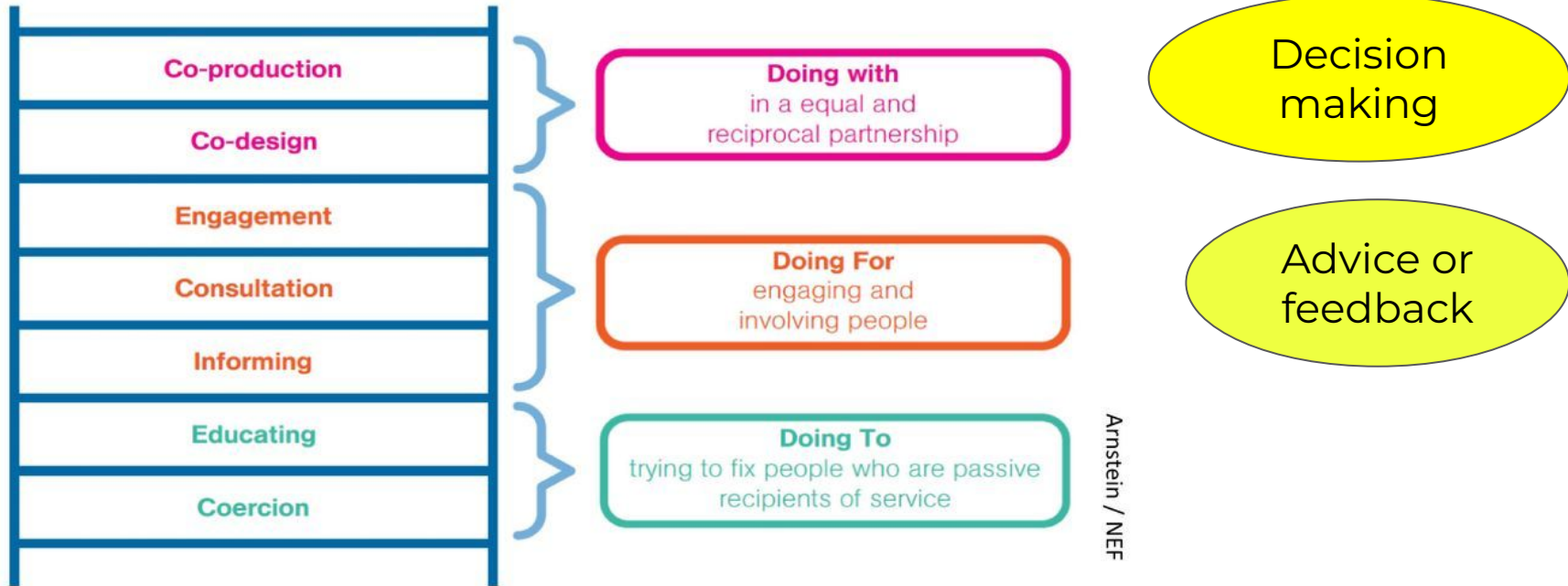
Desirable:

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?



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

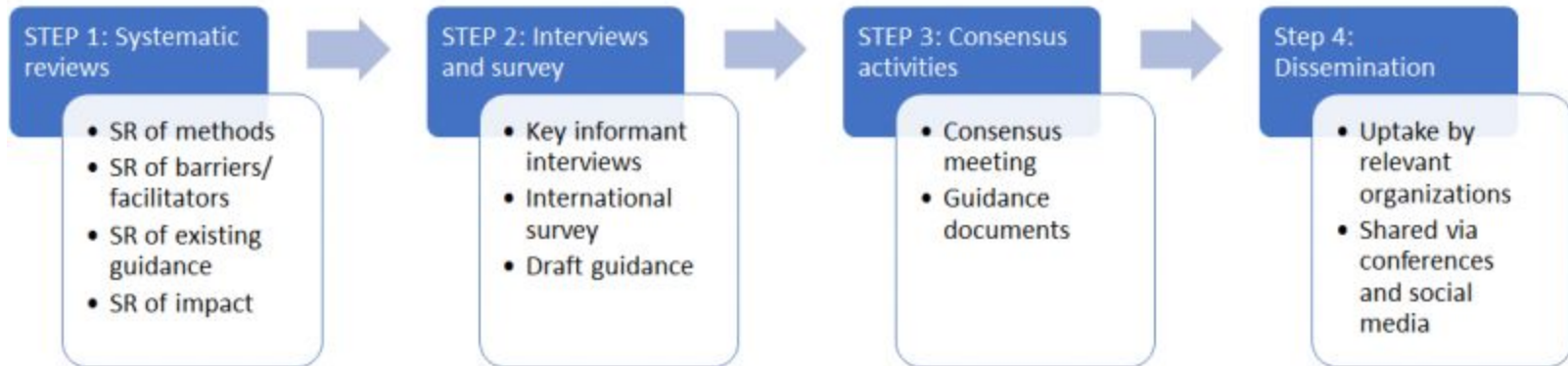
- Begins with team formation; equity values should be formulated as part of the team values and culture.
- Research team members should participate in Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) training
- Including people with lived experience as part of the team
- Ensure power balances are addressed & emphasize equitable decision making
- Providing the time, resources and support required for meaningful engagement

Upcoming work: MuSE Consortium

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



INTEGRATED KNOWLEDGE TRANSLATION



Want to learn more or join the MuSE



1. Visit our website
2. Read our publications
3. Contact: Jennifer Petkovic
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<https://methods.cochrane.org/equity/projects/multi-stakeholder-engagement-muse>

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