Course plan: Implementation of complex interventions in healthcare: 7.5 ECTS

Aim: To provide qualified insights in practical implementation of different healthcare interventions such as new interventions and clinical guidelines and a broad overview of research on how to improve healthcare.

Eligibility: Enrolled as PhD student, Good command of English. All lectures, assignments, and examinations will be in English.

General information: The course is open to PhD students in different fields relevant to implementation of new knowledge in healthcare practice such as caring sciences, medicine, psychology, and public health.

Credits: 7.5 ECTS

Grading: Approved/Not approved

Level of education: Postgraduate

Course type: Subject course

Main field: Medical science

Language: English

Course length: Weeks 4-9, 2018

Responsible department: Department of Women’s and Children’s Health, Uppsala University

Number of participants: 10-25

Course plan valid from: Autumn 2017

Education goals
After finishing the course the students should be able to:

- Understand and describe the complexity of implementation of interventions and clinical guidelines in healthcare practice
- Have in-depth knowledge of different theoretical perspectives, methods, and strategies with regard to implementation science and the relevance and usefulness of these for healthcare practice
- Understand and describe how implementation of interventions and guidelines can be measured and how to design studies with such a focus
- Explain and analyse what implementation of new knowledge in healthcare practice demands with regard to strategies, resources, and actors
- Apply all of the above mentioned in writing a research proposal to study implementation of an innovation in healthcare practice

Content
1. Quality of Care & Implementation of change: Introduction and concepts
2. Measuring Quality of Care: Performance indicators & Barriers and facilitators for quality improvement
3. Characteristics of successful implementation strategies
4. Evaluation of implementation: Designs and methods & Interactive session
5. Implementation in practice and the role of different actors
6. Implementation and evaluation of community based participatory interventions
7. Workshop on intervention mapping
8. Final seminar

Examination
Active participation at all occasions as per below is required. Students are expected to prepare well before lectures and read three core articles before each lecture. Attendance is mandatory. Examination includes two written assignments. The format for the final seminar is a live video conference. Before the seminar each student writes a paper and reads other students’
papers. Each student presents his/her paper and functions as a discussant concerning another paper at the seminar.

**Literature**
The literature consists of articles and handouts.

**Teaching staff**
Prof.dr. Theo van Achterberg, KU Leuven, Leuven
PhD, Senior lecturer Leif Eriksson, Uppsala University, Uppsala
Prof.dr. Marlies Hulscher, Radboud University Nijmegen Medical Centre, Nijmegen
PhD student Markus Saarijärvi, University of Gothenburg, Gothenburg
PhD, Researcher Joanne Woodford, Uppsala University, Uppsala

**Location**
Department of Women’s and Children’s Health, Uppsala University, Uppsala.

**Course leader**
Professor Louise von Essen, louise-von.essen@kbh.uu.se

**Course administration**
Hanna Taylor, hanna.taylor@kbh.uu.se

**Outline of the course**
1: January 23, 9.00-13.00 
*Quality of Care & Implementation of change: Introduction and concepts, Prof.dr. van Achterberg and Prof.dr. Hulscher*
- What is high-quality healthcare?
- Focus and main questions of the field
- History and positioning of the field in the health sciences
- Terminology and different theoretical perspectives
- Guidelines and innovations from an implementation perspective
- Exchange of students’ research studies/goals
- Introduction to examination papers and structure of the seminar

2: January 24, 9.00-13.00 
*Measuring Quality of Care: Performance indicators & Barriers and facilitators for quality improvement, Prof.dr. van Achterberg and Prof.dr. Hulscher*
- Measurement of quality of care, using performance indicators
- What is important for clinicians and policy makers?
- What are common barriers and facilitators for improvement and how to identify them?

3: January 25, 9.00-13.00 
*Characteristics of successful implementation strategies, Prof.dr. van Achterberg and Prof.dr. Hulscher*
- What are common barriers and facilitators for improvement and how to identify them?
- How to prepare for successful improvement?
- The range of implementation strategies – tailoring strategies
- Which strategy to choose and the effectiveness of different strategies?
4: January 26, 9.00-13.00  
Evaluation of implementation: Designs and methods & Interactive session, Prof.dr. van Achterberg and Prof.dr. Hulscher  
- Design and methods for evaluation of implementation interventions  
- Effect evaluation, Process evaluation (mechanisms, fidelity, context) & Economic evaluation of implementation interventions  
- Interactive discussion of participants questions or projects  

5: February 2, 9.00-12.00  
Implementation in practice and the role of different actors, PhD, Researcher Woodford  
- The role of different actors

6: February 7, 9.00-12.00  
Implementation and evaluation of community based participatory interventions, PhD, Senior lecturer Eriksson  
- Facilitation as an implementation strategy (PARIHS and i-PARIHS)  
- Examples of process evaluations  
- Introduction to written assignment  
- Hand in written assignment: February 14

7: February 8, 9.00-16.00  
Workshop on intervention mapping, PhD student Saarijärvi  
- Introduction to intervention mapping  
- Group work to apply intervention mapping to one specific health promotion program

8: March 1, 9.00-17.00  
Final seminar, Prof.dr. van Achterberg, Prof.dr. Hulscher, and PhD, Researcher Woodford  
- Presentations  
- Live video seminar, the students are in Uppsala and the main teachers participate through a video link  
- Hand in the preliminary paper: February 23  
- Circulate the preliminary paper to other students: February 23  
- Hand in the final paper: March 16
**Literature**

The literature list below consists of two parts. The first outlines core papers. Students should read three of these before the respective course occasion. The second part includes additional literature. In addition to the literature mentioned below, students are encouraged to scan recent content of open access journals such as *Implementation Science* (www.implementationscience.com).

**Core papers**

*Quality of Care & Implementation of change: Introduction and concepts*


*Measuring Quality of Care: Performance indicators & Barriers and facilitators for quality improvement*

- Consolidated Framework for Implementation Research. Available at: [http://cfirguide.org/constructs.html](http://cfirguide.org/constructs.html)

**Characteristics of successful implementation strategies**

- Effective Practice and Organisation of Care (EPOC). *EPOC Taxonomy; 2015*. Available at: [https://epoc.cochrane.org/epoc-taxonomy](https://epoc.cochrane.org/epoc-taxonomy)

**Evaluation of implementation: Designs and methods & Interactive session**


**Implementation in practice and the role of different actors**


**Implementation and evaluation of community based participatory interventions**


**Workshop on intervention mapping**


Additional literature


