

Strategies to facilitate timely and rigorous impact evaluation of large-scale HIV interventions

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Presentation Outline

- **Background**

- Approach
- Suggestions
- Conclusion

Background

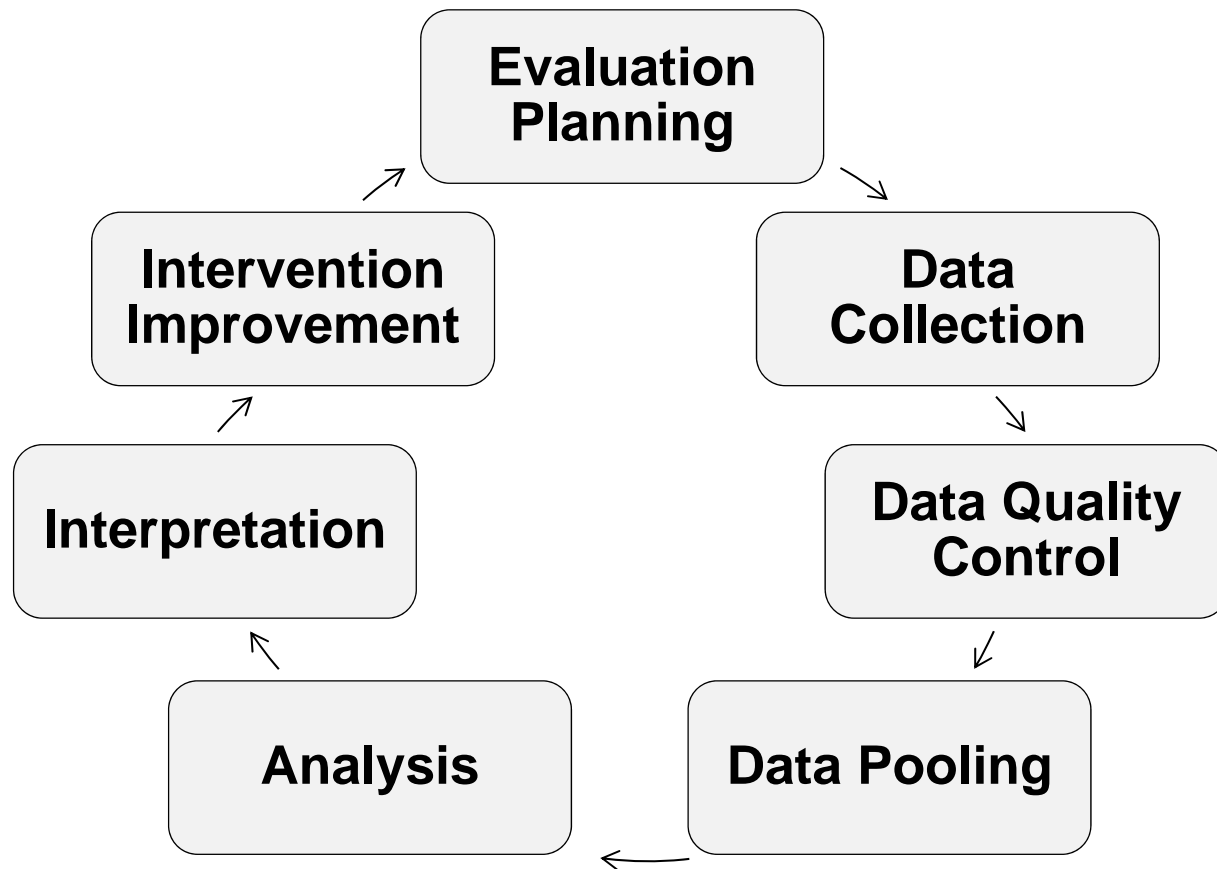
- Billions of dollars are spent annually on large-scale HIV interventions, such as ART rollout, funded under PEPFAR or GFATM
- Key donors have stated commitments to rigorous scientific evaluations of the impact of these interventions on population health
- Evaluation findings are often released several years after implementation, focused on process measures, and commonly use predictive models to infer population health impact

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Approach

Review of current impact evaluation methods to improve the evaluation process across 7 stages:



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Evaluation Planning

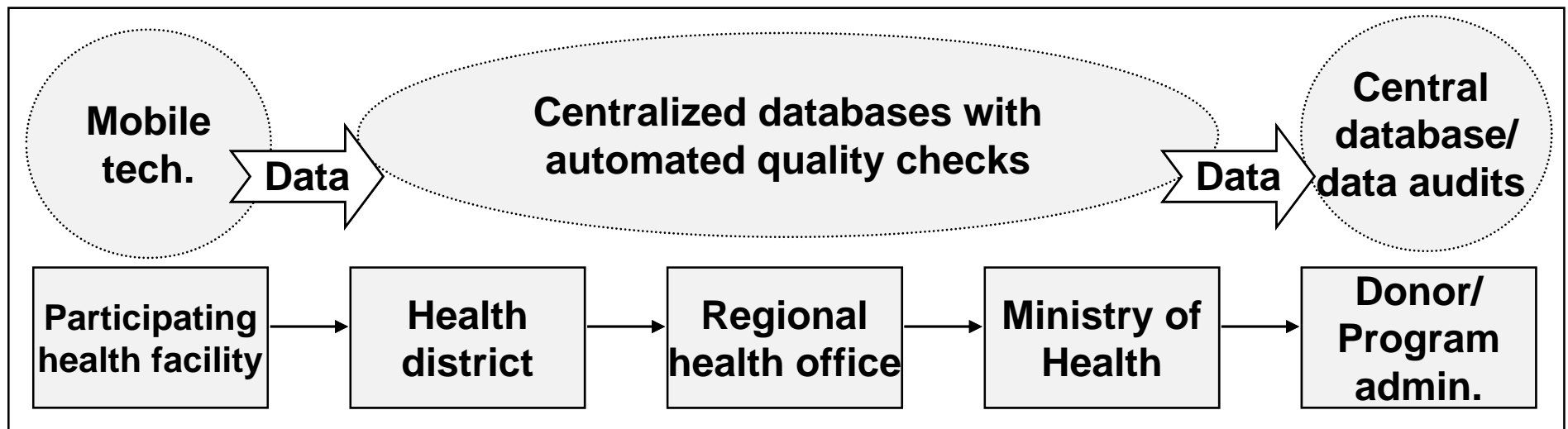
- **Challenge:** Limited funding, missed opportunities to collect evaluation data
- Allocate sufficient funding for impact evaluation using sector benchmarks from major funders (3% to 10% of program funding)
- Involve implementers in evaluation design to reduce burden of evaluation and focus on critical questions that can feed into program design
- Use experimental and quasi-experimental study designs to create rigorous counterfactuals

Data Collection and Quality Control

- **Challenge:** Low-quality and delayed data
- Conduct continuous data collection to generate exposure and outcomes measures on an ongoing basis
- Require facility staff to submit patient-level data to central databases
 - Mobile data collection technology for speed and accuracy of data collection and transmission
 - Use software for automated data plausibility checks
 - Corroborate data soon after collection using audits and periodic interviews with program staff

Data Collection and Quality Control

Suggested use of mobile technology in data collection



Data Pooling and Analysis

- **Challenge:** Low power, inability to examine effect modification
- Design databases that incorporate descriptive meta-data and common definitions to facilitate the pooling of data across intervention sites and regions
- **Challenge:** Slow analysis and lack of transparency
- Provide public access to raw data to facilitate timely and comprehensive analyses of data

Interpretation and Intervention Improvement

- **Challenge:** Missed opportunities for interpretation and learning
- Conduct qualitative studies and performance evaluations to improve interpretation of effect estimates from impact evaluations
- Encourage timely dissemination of evaluation results to all stakeholders for feedback
- Host workshops with implementers to establish local meaning of results, assess “authenticity”, and start a process towards actionable changes

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Conclusion

- A range of techniques and technologies could improve our capacity to conduct impact evaluations and use the evaluation results for intervention improvement
- As impact evaluation develops, these techniques and technologies should be increasingly applied, tested, and improved

Thank You

- For further questions, please contact the research team at dofarrell@riders.org.

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