

Weill Cornell Medicine Psychiatry Psychology Grand Rounds



Thursday, October 16, 2025
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Kelli Scott, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor, Medical Social Sciences (Implementation Science), Medical Social Sciences (Outcome and Measurement Science)



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Dr. Kelli Scott is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Medical Social Sciences and a core faculty member at the Center for Dissemination and Implementation Science (CDIS) at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine. She is a clinical psychologist and implementation scientist with over a decade of experience implementing evidence based mental health and substance use interventions in community behavioral healthcare settings. Dr. Scott's program of research focuses on implementing and evaluating the impact of both measurement based care and contingency management in community-based opioid treatment programs throughout New England, Chicagoland, and Pennsylvania. Dr. Scott also serves as the Director of the Northwestern University Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute Dissemination and Implementation Science Consult Service, which provides support to the Northwestern and broader Chicagoland research communities to integrate dissemination and implementation science into ongoing and future research efforts.

USING IMPLEMENTATION SCIENCE TO ENHANCE OPIOID USE DISORDER TREATMENT

ABSTRACT

Implementation science focuses on studying strategies to enhance the uptake of evidence based practices across community and clinical health care settings, with the ultimate goal of improving public health. Implementation science theories, frameworks, and methods can be particularly helpful for scaling up evidence-based substance use interventions. This presentation will introduce the field of implementation science, highlight commonly employed implementation science frameworks, methods, and study designs, and present case examples of community-partnered, hybrid effectiveness implementation studies with opioid treatment programs. These studies include two multi-site evaluations of measurement-based care, or the systematic use of self report measures to guide treatment decisions, in both Chicagoland and Pennsylvania opioid treatment programs (hybrid type 1 and type 2 studies), as well as a hybrid type 3 study evaluating contingency management implementation in Chicagoland treatment programs. Effectiveness and implementation outcomes will be presented, as well as results from study formative and process evaluations, to highlight the role of implementation science in enhancing care quality for opioid use disorder.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. Define implementation science and explain its role in the translational research pipeline.
2. Describe common implementation science frameworks used to guide contextual evaluation and implementation outcome assessment.
3. Discuss measurement-based care and contingency management as evidence-based interventions, including common barriers and implementation strategies for scaling these interventions in opioid treatment programs.

REFERENCES

1. Scott, K., Guigayoma, J., Palinkas, L. A., Beaudoin, F. L., Clark, M. A., & Becker, S. J. (2022). The measurement-based care to opioid treatment programs project (MBC20TP): a study protocol using rapid assessment procedure informed clinical ethnography. *Addiction Science & Clinical Practice*, 17(1). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s13722-022-00327-0>
2. Becker, S. J., Scott, K., & Elwy, A. R. (2021). You have an effective brief intervention (BI) for young adults, now what? Concrete strategies to advance BI implementation in usual care settings. *Psychology of Addictive Behaviors*, 36(6), 724–735. <https://doi.org/10.1037/adb0000731>
3. Casline, E., Scott, K., Murphy, C. M., Garner, B. R., & Becker, S. J. (2024). Evaluating provider report of fidelity to contingency management in opioid treatment programs. *Drug and Alcohol Dependence*, 267, 112544. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.drugalcdep.2024.112544>

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