



# Ending the HIV epidemic with implementation science in HRSA's Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program

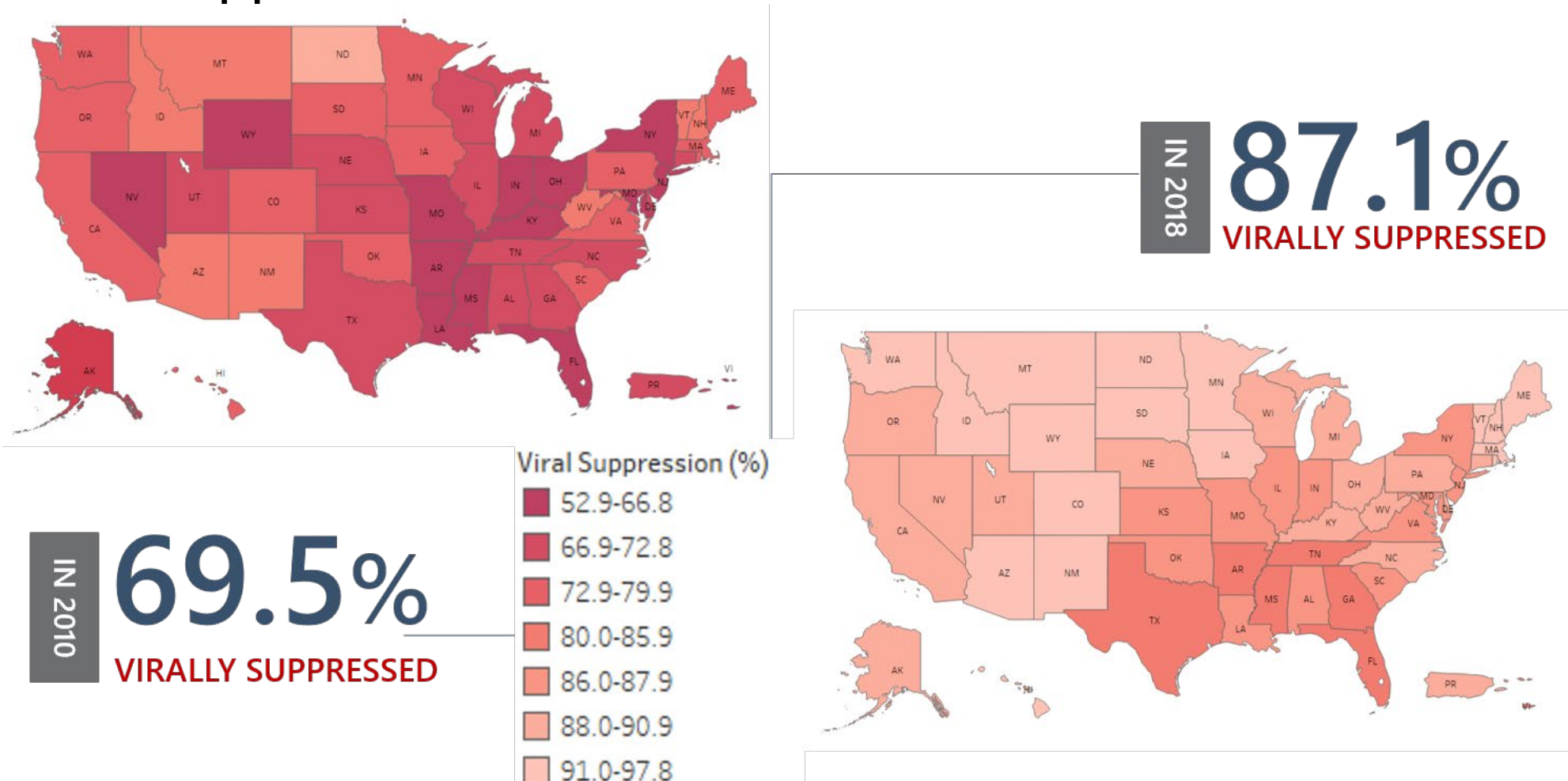
**PRESENTER:** Demetrios Psihopaidas, PhD MA, Stacy M. Cohen, MPH; Tanchica West, MPH, MA; Latham Avery, MPH, MSW, CHES; Antigone Dempsey, MEd; Kim Brown, MHA MSW; Corliss Heath, PhD, MPH, MDiv; Adan Cajina, MSOR; Harold Phillips, MRP; Steven Young, MSPH; April Stubbs-Smith, MPH; Laura W. Cheever, MD, ScM



## Introduction

The Health Resources and Services Administration's HIV/AIDS Bureau (HRSA HAB) administers the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program (RWHAP), a comprehensive system of direct medical care and support services for more than half a million people with HIV – more than 50% of all people with diagnosed HIV in the United States.

HRSA HAB and RWHAP providers have played a pivotal role in the implementation of effective intervention strategies for people with HIV since the beginning of the HIV epidemic, contributing to significant improvements in client outcomes. Between 2010 and 2017, the proportion of RWHAP clients receiving outpatient ambulatory health services achieving viral suppression increased from 69.5% to 85.9%.<sup>1</sup>



Implementation science (IS) frameworks and approaches have created new opportunities to maximize the RWHAP's reach and impact. In collaboration with other federal agencies, HRSA HAB has created a guiding framework to support the real-world application of IS.

## Methods

In 2018 HRSA HAB collaborated with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the National Institutes of Mental Health to create the Federal IS Workgroup. Simultaneously, HRSA HAB established an internal IS workgroup with a diverse group of resident IS and RWHAP subject matter experts.

Workgroup members conducted an extensive literature review and environmental scan to identify key concepts and real-world applications. Consensus meetings were held to adapt existing definitions, concepts, and frameworks tailored to the unique roles of each agency. Finally, the workgroup's guidance was operationalized into the HRSA HAB IS approach.

# HRSA HAB creates guiding framework to utilize implementation science in the real world.

# The goal: Rapid implementation of innovative intervention strategies for people with HIV



Take a picture to learn more about the HAB IS approach

## REFERENCES

1. Health Resources and Services Administration. Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Annual Client-Level Data Report 2017. December 2018. Available at: <http://hab.hrsa.gov/data/data-reports>. Accessed June 1, 2019.

## The HAB IS approach

The HAB implementation science approach (HAB IS) emphasizes two core components: rapid implementation and implementation science evaluation.

Figure 1. Rapid implementation for the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program

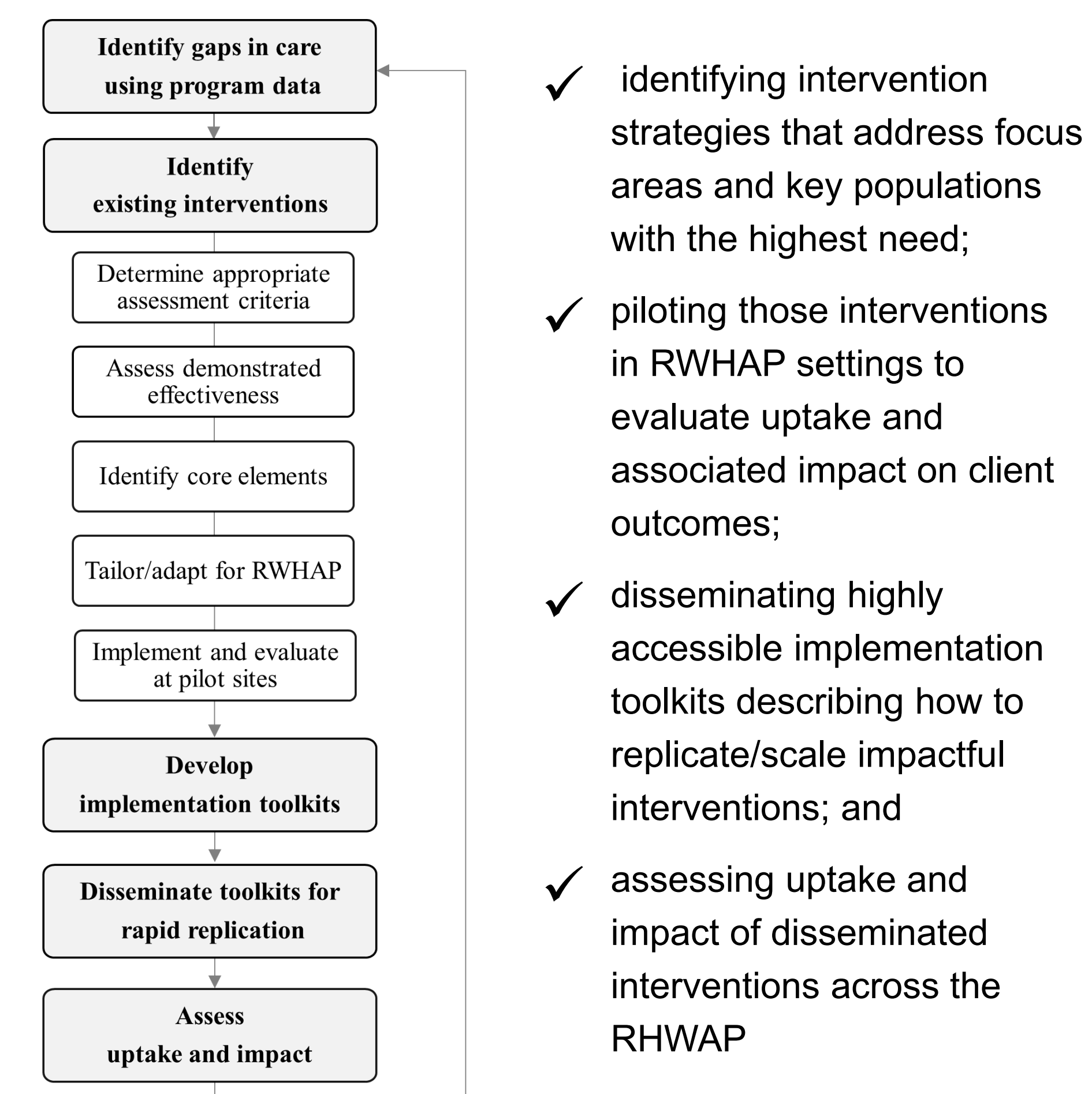
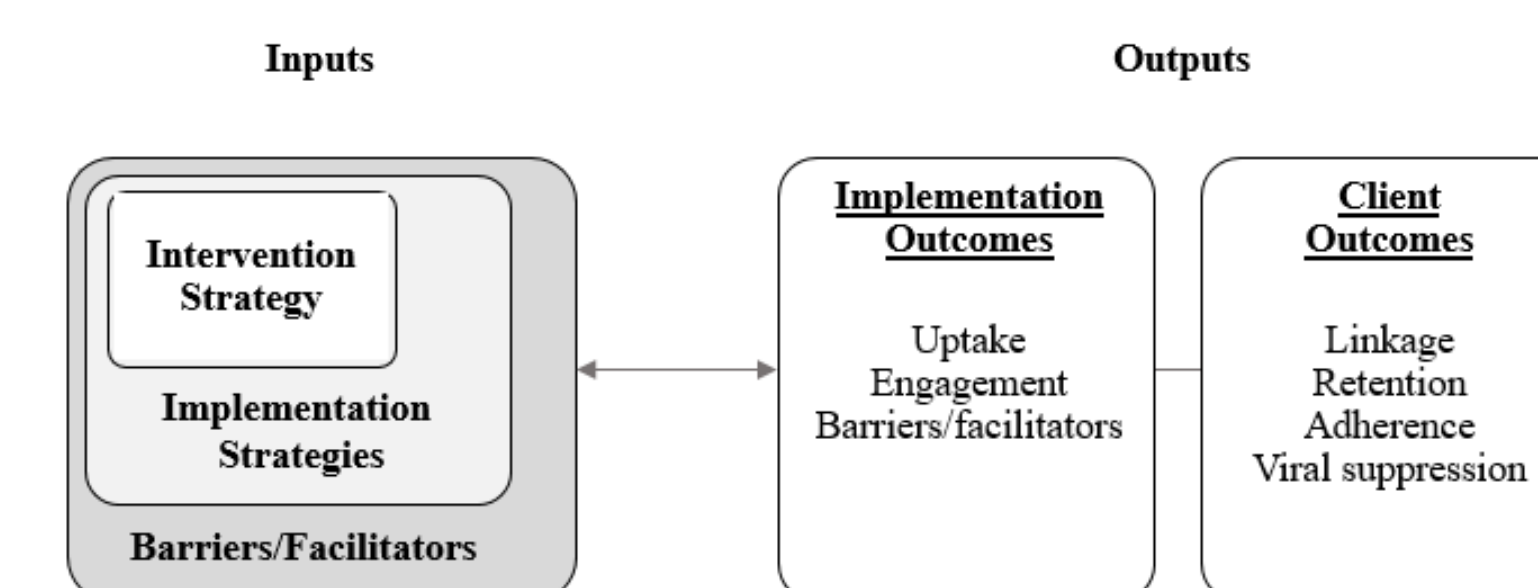


Figure 2. Implementation science evaluation for the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program



## Discussion

To end the HIV epidemic in the United States, it will be necessary to go beyond what's been done before. This framework will support the application of insights from the field of IS to improve public health programs broadly. Additionally, it contributes to the dialogue between scientists and implementers, demonstrating how implementation science can be utilized in real-world settings.

## Contact Information

Demetrios Psihopaidas, PhD, MA  
Senior Health Scientist, Division of Policy and Data, HIV/AIDS Bureau  
Health Resources and Services Administration  
Email: [dpsihopaidas@hrsa.gov](mailto:dpsihopaidas@hrsa.gov)  
Phone: 301-443-1469