Family Ties: A Discussion of Strategies for Building a Research Cooperative

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A general organizing framework can:

- Foster positioning of each member’s research in the context of the group
- Highlight underlying shared interests
- Accommodate a broad spectrum of family research interests
- Encompass multiple health challenges and methodological approaches
Discussion of Pros & Cons

Self-and Family Management Framework
(Grey, et al., 2014)

Facilitators & Barriers
• Personal; Lifestyle
• Health Status
• Resources
• Environment
• Health Care System

Processes
• Focusing on Illness Needs
• Activating Resources
• Living with the Condition

Proximal Outcomes
• Behaviors
• Cognitions
• Biomarkers
• Symptom management

Distal Outcomes
• Health status
• Individual outcome
• Family outcomes
• Health care

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Strategy #2 – Shared Measures of Family Functioning

“The NIH definition of common data elements (CDEs) is ‘a data element that is common to multiple data sets across different studies’ (http://www.nlm.nih.gov/cde; National Institutes of Health, 2014 a, b) ... CDEs are generated from the same set of instruments used to consistently measure a set of concepts of interest to many researchers. Comparison of data across studies is more accurate and relevant when researchers are investigating questions using the same data elements and measures”.

Reviews of Established Self-Report Measures of Family Functioning


Established Self-Report Measures of Family Functioning

- Family Assessment Device (FAD)
- Family Assessment Measure (FAM)
- Family Relations Index (FRI)
- Family Environment Scale (FES)
- Self-Report Family Inventory (SFI)
- Family Adaptability and Cohesion Evaluation Scale (FACES)
- Systemic Clinical Outcome and Routine Evaluation (SCORE)
- Family APGAR (APGAR)
- Feetham Family Functioning Scale (FFFS)
- McCubbin Framework Scales (McCubbin)
## Reviews of Established Self-Report Measures of Family Functioning

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Discussion of Strategies