

HEALTHCARE SYSTEMS DESIGN GROUP

Scientific Advisory Board—Outline and Rationale

PURPOSE:

To provide the Healthcare System Design Group (HSDG), HSDG's Implementation Research team, with independent advice, critical feedback, and strategic guidance on research protocols in development. The Scientific Advisory Board will thus evaluate the design, methods, goals, ethics, and research tools of these protocols and provide recommendations to the research team.

RATIONALE AND BACKGROUND:

To fulfill our goal of providing high-quality, low-cost healthcare in resource-limited settings, we must be at the forefront of figuring out how best to design healthcare systems that work for our patients. To this end, we utilize rigorous implementation research methods to test the success of implementing novel and innovative interventions. By having a group of research experts from different fields who are deeply connected to and have intimate knowledge of Nepal (and other LMICs) and its unique healthcare landscape, the research team can harness their expertise, experiences, and impartial critique to design better research studies. The advice of the Scientific Advisory Board will also aid in promoting transparency of research ideas, stimulating use of the most current research methods, adhering to the principles of scientific research, and cultivating creative collaborations. Ultimately, the Scientific Advisory Board will help the research team to create research studies that will effectively drive us towards bridging the implementation gap while defining and advancing the field of implementation research.

FORMAT OVERVIEW:

- Quarterly meetings via teleconference (Skype).
- Appointment will be for a period of 2 year (4 meetings) with voluntary option to renew.
- Meetings will consist of Scientific Advisory Board Members plus:
 - Site-Principal Investigator/Director of Impact, David Citrin, PhD, MPH
 - Impact Project Manager, Scott Halliday, MS
 - Other HSDG Implementation Research Team members where appropriate
 - Any invited guests/members