



THE ENABLERS OF A DATA HARMONISATION INNOVATION IN THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

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CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

- I have no conflicts of interest to declare
- This presentation is informed by my PhD project
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PURPOSE

- To share key enablers of a data harmonisation (DH) innovation in the Western Cape Province
- DH innovation = Provincial Health Data Center (PHDC)

RESEARCH

- UCT ethics approval and WC DoH permission
- Conceptual frameworks: HIV cascade and Sociotechnical Evaluation
- Ethnographic study: data collected during 2016 and 2017 through participant observation and interviews
- Participants: PHDC staff, iALARM researchers, sub-district health information officers, frontline health workers and managers
- Iterative thematic analysis

INTERNAL ENABLERS

Structure: government-university collaboration

- Relationships with City, Province and university stakeholders
- Legitimacy as a government initiative
- Financial and human resources from the university
- Piloting of DH processes on research projects

Team: champion and ‘mini’ champions

- champion (=innovator) is supported by a passionate team
- flexible, multi-skilled and distinct tasks
- previous experience with the health services and local databases

EXTERNAL ENABLERS

Western Cape RHIS:

- individual-level data
- Clinicom system

Frontline health workers:

- track HIV cascade outcomes and events over time
- routinised HIV cascade report, e.g. to evaluate service performance, motivate for additional resources, patient-level tracking interventions

LESSONS

- Driven by on-the-ground data needs and viewed as a work-in-progress
- Dedicated team of innovators that know the health services and databases well
- Adaptable skills for ongoing/changing needs and transition of the innovation
- Optimising existing technical infrastructure, networks and funding
- Introducing formal data procedures to help clarify the purpose and legitimacy of the innovation

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