

ASSESSING E-HEALTH INITIATIVES: DO THEORETICAL FRAMEWORKS MATTER IN PRACTICE?

Monika JURKEVICIUTE ^a, Emanuele LETTIERI ^{a,b}, Amia ENAM ^a, Johanna TORRES-BONILLA ^a, Henrik ERIKSSON ^a and Andreas HELLSTRÖM ^a

^a *Chalmers University of Technology Centre for Healthcare Improvement*

^b *Politecnico di Milano, Department of Management, Economics and Industrial Engineering*

BACKGROUND

- Building evaluation efforts on theoretical frameworks is recommended in eHealth evaluation.
- Some scholars argue that there is insufficient use of frameworks in eHealth evaluation.
- Empirical grounding for such claims is missing.

OBJECTIVES

To investigate the actual reference to theoretical frameworks in empirical eHealth evaluation studies

METHODS & DATA

Method:

- Systematic literature review
- Scopus & Google Scholar, 1990-2016
- “eHealth interventions” AND (“research methods” OR “study design” OR “evaluation methods”)

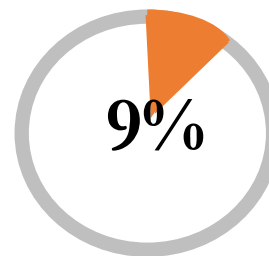
Data:

- 23 empirical cases of summative eHealth evaluations selected
- Selected 6 theoretical evaluation frameworks for comparison with empirical cases

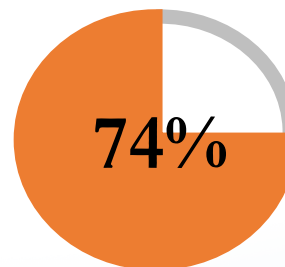
DATA ANALYSIS

1. Looking for any reference to theoretical evaluation frameworks in 23 empirical cases
2. Investigating a theoretical possibility to build the 23 empirical studies on the 6 selected theoretical evaluation frameworks

RESULTS



Empirical studies that referred to any theoretical evaluation framework (2 out 23)



Empirical studies (17 out of 23) fully matching with at least one of the selected theoretical evaluation frameworks

CONCLUSIONS

1. The gap between eHealth evaluation research and practice exists and has been proven empirically.
2. The reasons behind the limited use of theoretical evaluation frameworks should be investigated.

IMPLICATIONS

1. Theoretical evaluation frameworks need better dissemination.
2. The reasons behind the gap between theory and practice should be investigated.