COVID-END logic model/theory of change
Infographic brief
2020-07-28

Logos – COVID-END and COVID-END partners (see attached)

Perception – There is no current understanding of what the COVID-19 Evidence Network to support Decision-making (COVID-END) is, or what it is meant to achieve. (For some background on COVID-END, visit our website)

Picture – N/A

Tone: Professional

Timing: Negotiable; ideally by mid-August

Venue: Will be shared most commonly in powerpoint presentations but will also be housed on the website

Size: standard powerpoint slide dimensions

Colours/brand: See attached for more details on COVID-END branding

CONTENT

The COVID-END theory of change includes three key graphics:

1) The detailed **logic model** for COVID-END that includes the challenges that led to the need for the network, the inputs, work streams, mechanisms and outputs and values underpinning the network, the groups/organizations with which COVID-END is engaged (partners and community), the target groups, and the anticipated impacts.

We are hoping that the existing graphic can be enhanced to better show the dynamic nature of a network, as well as more of a direct logic chain from problems-to-network-to-impact (right now the challenges sit on top and then it goes from left to right). We have all of the elements but we are looking to make it more visually appealing. It needs to 'stand alone' and will be most used of the three.

2) An **impacts diagram** that attempts to tease out the independent but interacting effects of each individual COVID-END partner on the expected system impacts from the expected contribution of the network itself to impacts. The size and directionality of the arrows is important. We will always use this graphic in conjunction with the logic model.

3) **Placing COVID-END in the context** of the broader evidence ecosystem. This graphic is meant to take a 'birds eye' view of the evidence ecosystem and show where COVID-END is expected to have influence (and where it is not). The COVID-END influence is currently depicted by a shaded oval. This graphic will always be used in conjunction with the logic model. The graphic is adapted from an evidence ecosystem graphic developed by one of the COVID-END partners so that reference to the adaptation will need to remain (even if it gets modified further).

Who are these graphics for? We will be using these graphics to describe COVID-END to a variety of audiences, including current and potential COVID-END partners and community members, researchers and the research synthesis community, research funders, policy and system decision-makers. We will also be using the logic model to conduct an evaluation of the network.

Background: The COVID-19 pandemic has elicited an explosion of activities among all types of researchers, including in the evidence-synthesis, technology-assessment and guideline-development communities that have long track records of supporting decision-making locally, nationally and internationally. These activities span the full gamut of COVID-19 issues, including traditional infection prevention and control but also how to manage impacts on mental health and family violence, health- and social-care systems, education, employment, financial protection, food safety and security, government services, housing, public safety and justice, recreation and transportation. These activities also span the full array of contexts where the COVID-19 pandemic is playing out, including low-, middle- and high-income countries.

The COVID-19 Evidence Network to support Decision-making (COVID-END) is a global collaboration of almost 50 partners that has come together to help those already supporting decision-making to find and use the best evidence that is already out there (i.e. to support the evidence-demand side) and to help reduce duplication in and better coordinate the evidence syntheses, technology assessment and guidelines being produced (i.e., to support the evidence supply side).

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This logic model has been developed by the COVID-END Sustaining working group, on behalf of the COVID-END partners.

This summary was prepared by Heather Bullock, COVID-END secretariat
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