

WtT 5

Time to sing? The use of music and singing as participatory methods to facilitate co-production in implementation science

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Introduction

The theme of this symposium is navigating the maze of inequity and inclusion. For this, we need to learn more about how to involve public and patient contributors from diverse backgrounds in implementation projects. In this symposium, we focus on culturally attuned methods for involving refugees and migrants in implementation projects. We present radical thinking about the potential of music and singing as arts-based methods to facilitate intercultural, inclusive, energising and impactful spaces for co-production. Participants can observe or participate in music and singing activities to learn more about these ideas.

The Session

Background: Implementation science is paying much-needed attention to issues of equity. This includes attention to more meaningful co-production processes with communities who experience health disparities. Refugees and migrants experience health disparities in resettlement countries, and there is an urgent need to implement evidence-based interventions to optimise their health. However, their involvement in co-production processes is rare, ad-hoc and unevenly spread. Further, research fatigue exists in these communities because they are tired of being subjects in extractive research processes that do not lead to concrete changes in their lives or improved health outcomes. Therefore, to advance, it is important to identify co-production methodologies that are energising, inclusive and impactful. Situated in a participatory health research paradigm and centralising the concept of participatory space, this symposium will debate the motion: the potential of music and singing to facilitate co-production processes with refugees and migrants is under-appreciated.

Methods: We will present the '*Irish World Music Café*' method, providing symposium participants with an opportunity to observe/participate in the participatory potential of the whole-body sensorium through the use of musical activities. We will then create small groups for critical reflection on the stated motion using a series of guided prompts.

Results and Discussion: Small groups will share their perspectives in a final plenary culminating in a musically informed response about ways forward for exploring music and singing as methods to facilitate co-production processes with refugees and migrants as well as other under-served populations.

Key highlights

- There will be opportunity to experience the novel use of music and singing as participatory methods to facilitate co-production to improve equity in implementation science.
- There will be opportunity to demonstrate how non-verbal, embodied processes can support thinking and debating about novel methods in implementation science.