

## **WEEK 11 – WHAT IS IMPLEMENTATION?**

*Professors: Bruce Lubotsky Levin, DrPH, MPH & Ardis Hanson, PhD*

According to the National Implementation Research Network at the University of North Carolina, implementation is defined as a specified set of activities designed to put into practice an activity or program of known dimensions.

Implementation can apply to policy, programs, or practice. Most often, implementation occurs after legislative or regulatory action, policy review or guideline development.

It can also occur after other types of review, such as looking at strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats of a particular setting or proposed action-- also known as SWOT analyses-- or environmental scans of current and emerging legislation and/or regulation, as well as systematic cost effectiveness reviews of best practices.

However, one thing is certain-- implementation is expected to occur after these actions, which result in addressing and/or identifying strategic planning, issues, and goals.