

Unintended consequences:

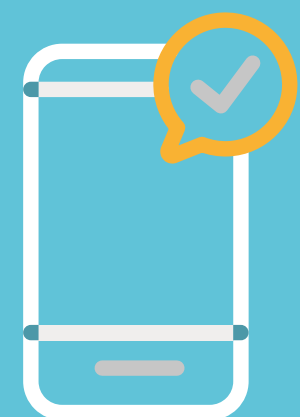
a qualitative exploration of whether collecting implementation process data via phone check-ins impacts implementation activities



Qualitative data are crucial when studying implementation processes and necessary for understanding implementation trial outcomes

Typical methods for capturing such data include **observations, focus groups, and interviews**

Little consideration has been given to the impact of these methods on **participant engagement, implementation activities, and study outcomes**



Researchers assessed the impact of ongoing telephone check-ins conducted with clinic personnel serving as implementers within a clinical trial

Implementers reported that check-in calls' impact fell into three categories:

1. Calls had no effect on implementation activities

2. Calls served as a reminder about study participation, without a clear impact on implementation activities

3. Calls led to changes in implementation activities

Among **19** Implementers

11%

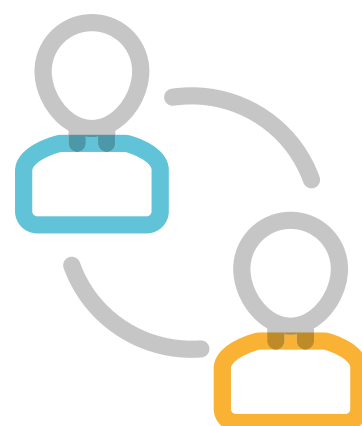
Reported calls had no effect

37%

Reported calls served as a reminder

53%

Reported calls led to changes



Implications

- Qualitative data collection may have unintended effects on implementation activities and study outcomes
- Mitigating such effects may prove challenging
- Acknowledging and embracing these consequences could enhance rigor and potentially support practice change.