

As described by Fixsen, Blase, Metz, & Van Dyke, 2013¹, four criteria are necessary for an intervention to be considered “usable:”

1. Clear Description of the Innovation

- ✓ The philosophy, values, and principles that underlie an innovation. These provide guidance for an organization to explore its fit and consistency with an innovation.
- ✓ Inclusion and Exclusion Criteria. These define the population for which the innovation is intended and who is most likely to benefit from the innovation.

2. Clear Essential Functions that Define the Innovation

- ✓ Description of the features – core components or active ingredients – of the innovation. These describe what must be present to say that an innovation exists in a given location.

3. Operational Definitions of the Essential Functions (*practice profiles – what people are doing, saying*)

- ✓ Description of the core activities that indicate the core components are in place. These allow an innovation to be taught, learned, done, assessed, and repeated in practice.

4. Practical Assessment of Fidelity (*performance of the innovation*)

- ✓ Feasible measurement of the extent to which the innovation’s essential functions and core activities are in place. This assessment allows real-time data to be regularly gathered to demonstrate the essential functions of the innovation. It allows you to show that an innovation is in place as intended. It can also indicate areas for strengthening support to improve performance of the innovation and getting to outcomes.

¹ Fixsen, D., Blase, K., Metz, A., & Van Dyke, M. (2013). *Statewide implementation of evidence-based programs. Exceptional Children (Special Issue)*, 79(2), 213-230.