

Rapid Cycle Evaluation **What Works Better, and What Works for Whom?**

Presentation to the Office of Planning, Research and
Evaluation “Black Box” Methods Meeting

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Rapid Cycle Evaluation

Does it
work?

Can I make it
better?

Program Evaluation

Evaluate entire program

Compare participants



to non-participants



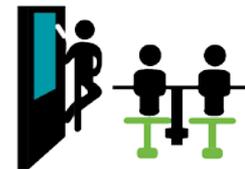
Analytic
Methods



Rapid Cycle Evaluation

Evaluate change to program

Compare some participants



to other participants

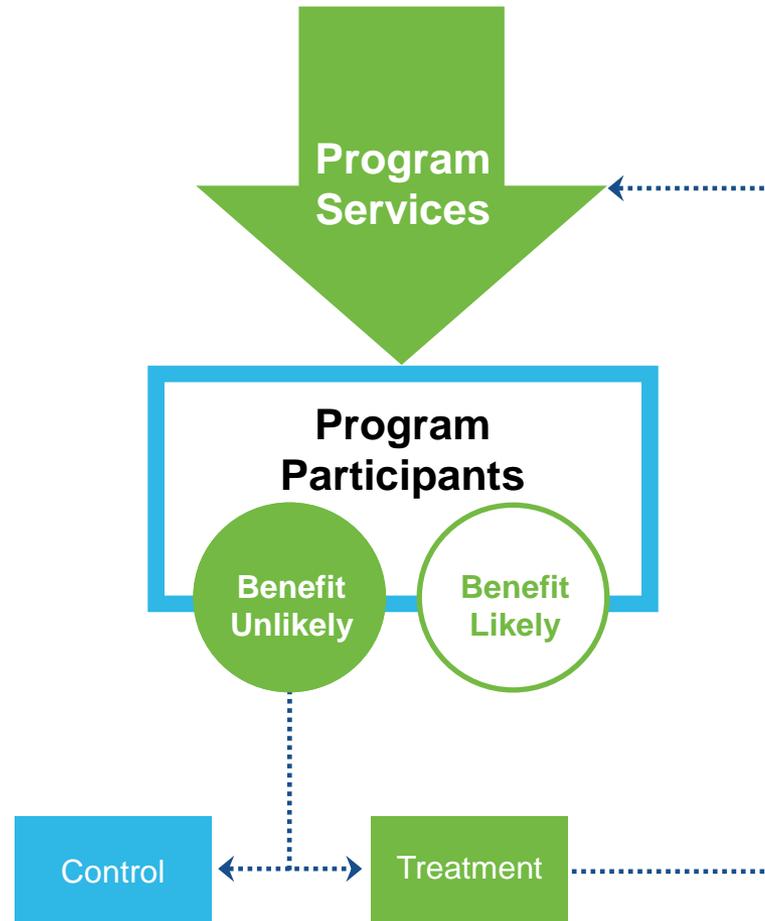


What Works Better?

Rapid cycle evaluation can test:

- Strategies to improve engagement and persistence
- Variation in dosage and intensity
- Different services and combinations of services
- Changes in targets and expectations
- Steps to improve efficiency

What Works for Whom?



What Is Needed?

- Quality data
- A “testable” change
- A short “impact window”
- Sufficient flow of clients

What Can Agencies Do?

- Facilitate program-level feasibility assessment
 - Data quality
 - Testable program changes
 - Systems capacity
- Promote data governance, data linking
- Ensure regulatory flexibility
- Provide technical assistance

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