

United States Department of Justice
Office of Justice Programs
Bureau of Justice Assistance

Performance Measures for the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program

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Federal Mandates

Performance measurement is required by executive law and by the federal budgetary process:

- The Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA)
- The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Program Assessment Rating Tool (PART)

Developing Measures

The Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) and its consultants worked with representatives from the following states:

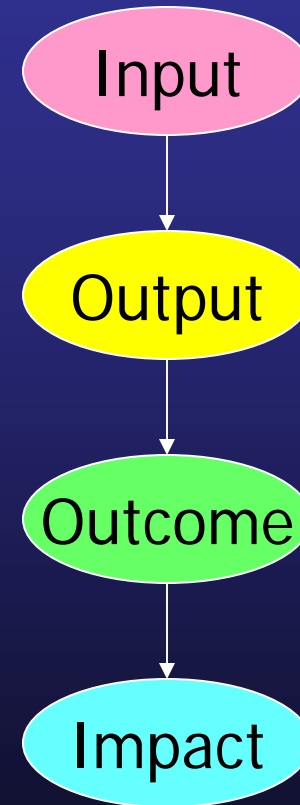
- Alabama
- California
- Kentucky
- Maine
- Nevada
- Ohio
- Virginia

Together we developed a model for evaluation and associated performance measures.

A Model for Evaluation

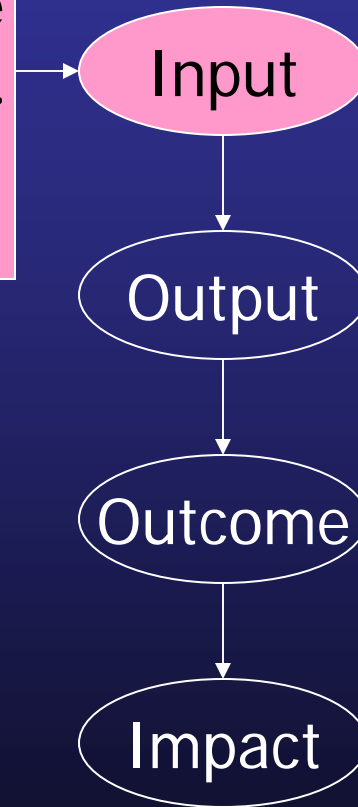
The approach assumes:

- That there is an underlying process with four components
- That each component depends on preceding components
- That impact is the ultimate indicator of success



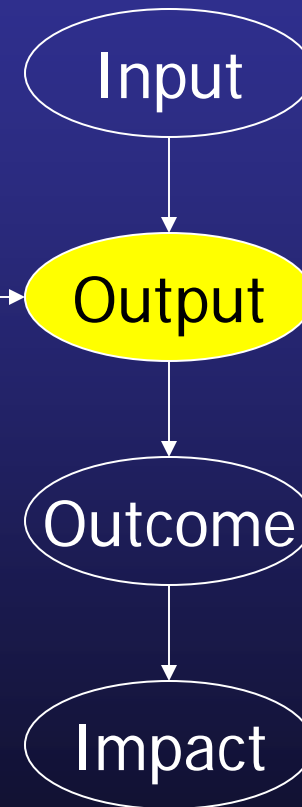
A Model for Evaluation: Input

Inputs are the “ingredients” of the system that allow it to do its work. Training is a very important input.



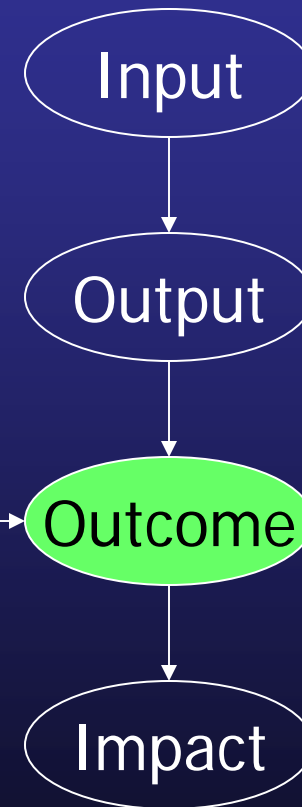
A Model for Evaluation: Output

Outputs are the actual work done by the system. Solicited and unsolicited reports are examples of outputs.

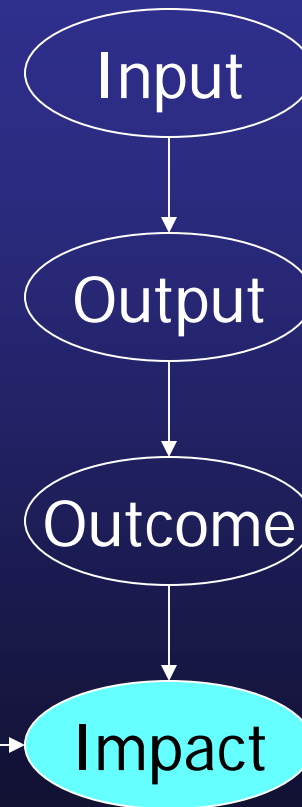


A Model for Evaluation: Outcome

Outcomes are the most immediate consequences of the work done by the system. A reduction in "doctor shopping" is one such outcome.



A Model for Evaluation: Impact

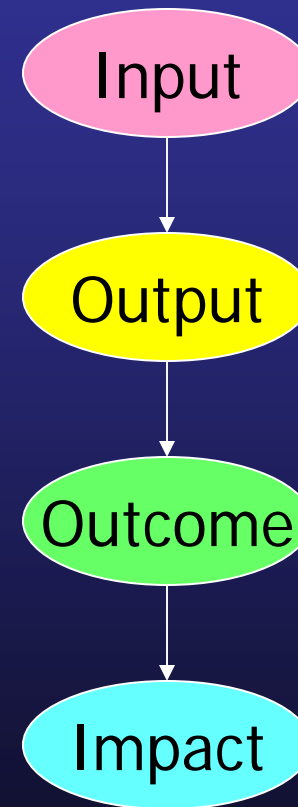


Impacts are the ultimate results.
One impact is a reduction in the prevalence of "inappropriate prescription drug use".

Performance Measures

The approach assumes:

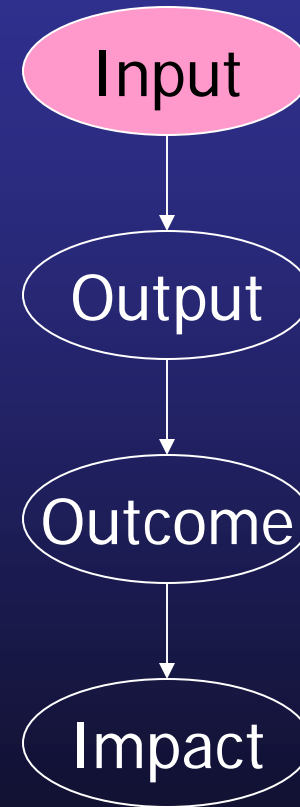
- That each component has one or more measures
- That these measures are valid indicators of program performance
- That grant recipients report on the measures regularly



Performance Measures: Input

Separately for “prescribers”,
“dispensers”, and “enforcers”:

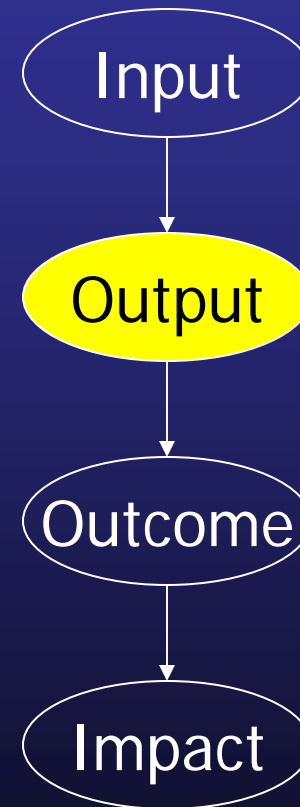
- The proportion trained formally during the current reporting period
- The proportion trained formally to date
- The proportion trained informally during the current reporting period
- The proportion trained informally to date



Performance Measures: Output

Separately for “prescribers”,
“dispensers”, and “enforcers”:

- The rate of unsolicited reporting based on all cases
- The rate of solicited reporting based on all cases
- The rate of unsolicited reporting based on suspect cases
- The rate of solicited reporting based on suspect cases

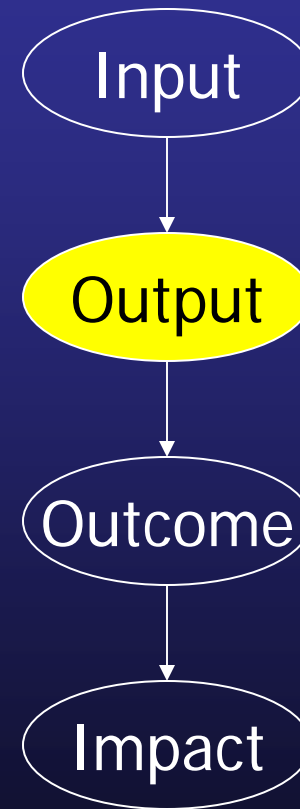


Performance Measures: Output

Suspect cases include measures for three cumulative schedule categories:

- Schedule II
- Schedule II and III
- Schedule II, III and IV

This scheme is necessary because coverage varies across states.

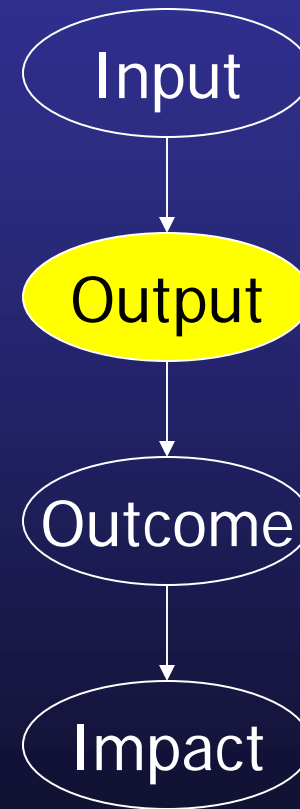


Performance Measures: Output

There are three thresholds associated with each cumulative schedule category:

- 5 doctors and 5 pharmacies
- 10 doctors and 10 pharmacies
- 15 doctors and 15 pharmacies

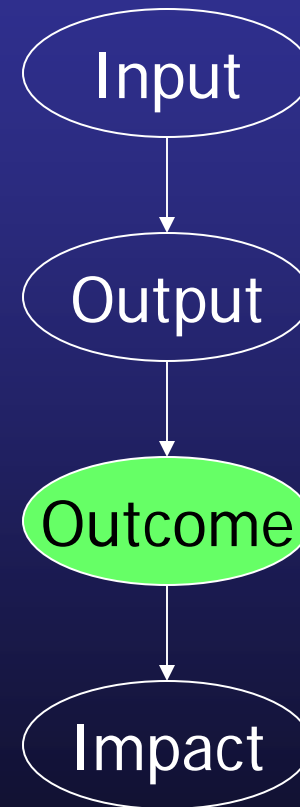
The thresholds are arbitrary.
Only a case investigation can offer confirmation.



Performance Measures: Outcome

For each cumulative schedule category and threshold:

- The rate at which suspect cases occur
- The rate at which suspect doses are dispensed by drug class



Performance Measures: Outcome

Drug classes include:

- Pain relievers
- Tranquilizers
- Stimulants
- Sedatives



Performance Measures: Impact

For each drug class:

- The population prevalence of prescription drug abuse
- The treatment prevalence of prescription drug abuse

