



# Carrying out a qualitative evidence synthesis - Creating a review question

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Acknowledgement Ruth Garside QIMG – sharing slides

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# Refining a QES Question



- Thus far Cochrane and non Cochrane reviews have explored a limited set of QES questions ‘barriers and facilitators to intervention implementation’
- We need to be more innovative with question development
- QES question development may also be iterative ....
- Question development is vital for applying CERQual (relevance component)

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# CERQual Relevance considerations

**Specify the context of the review question, including:**

## Micro-context

**The Population** - Specify any specific characteristics, perspectives or subgroups of the population. (e.g. Pregnant African women living in Africa)

**The Setting** (such as. hospital, private provider, timeframe of interest. (e.g. Publicly funded hospitals from 2000 to present time)

**The Place** (such as geographical location, political system. (e.g. Africa – state-funded healthcare)

## Meso-context

**The Intervention (where applicable)** - Specify the intervention and components of interest. (e.g medically assisted birth in a state-funded hospital)

## Macro-context

**The policy, political issues, social climate or legislation** – such as the policy context and legal framework associated with the phenomenon of interest. (e.g updating pan-Africa clinical and midwifery guidelines to promote safer birth and woman-centred care)

## Cross cutting:

**The Phenomenon of interest** - (e.g. The experiences of African women regarding medically assisted birth in public hospitals in Africa)

# Question formulation frameworks

	PICO	PICOS	SPIDER
Multiple Sclerosis and patient/service user	Population	Population	Sample
Health care services	Intervention	Intervention	Phenomenon of Interest
Named types of qualitative data collection and analysis	Comparison	Comparison	Design
Experiences, perceptions	Outcome	Outcome	Evaluation
Qualitative or qualitative method	not applicable	Study type	Research type

## Question formulation: SPICE

<b>S</b>	<b>Setting</b>
P	Perspective
I	Phenomenon of Interest
C	Comparison
E	Evaluation

## Community Engagement

### **Q9: What are the best ways to engage communities in emergency risk communication activities to respond to events/contexts?**

- Setting: In the context of preparing for and responding to events/emergencies with public health implications in high, low, middle income and fragile states
- Perspective: National governments and relevant subnational authorities (e.g., local/district health departments), responding and implementing partners, at-risk communities and stakeholders
- Phenomena of interest: Strategies and tactics for encouraging participation of at-risk communities in emergency risk communication planning and response
- Comparison: Differing tactics: integration of at-risk communities into planning processes, providing incentives to community leadership, use of formal reporting systems and feedback loops, others. Equity considerations
- Evaluation: Impact on level of engagement and retention of community participation, public trust in health protection information, level of coverage of information sharing, perceived relevance among communities of national response to local questions/concerns
- Time scope: 2003 to present

# Think about developing a logic model

## Box 1. Added value of using logic models in systematic reviews

### Scoping the review

- Refining review question
- Deciding on lumping or splitting a review topic
- Identifying intervention components

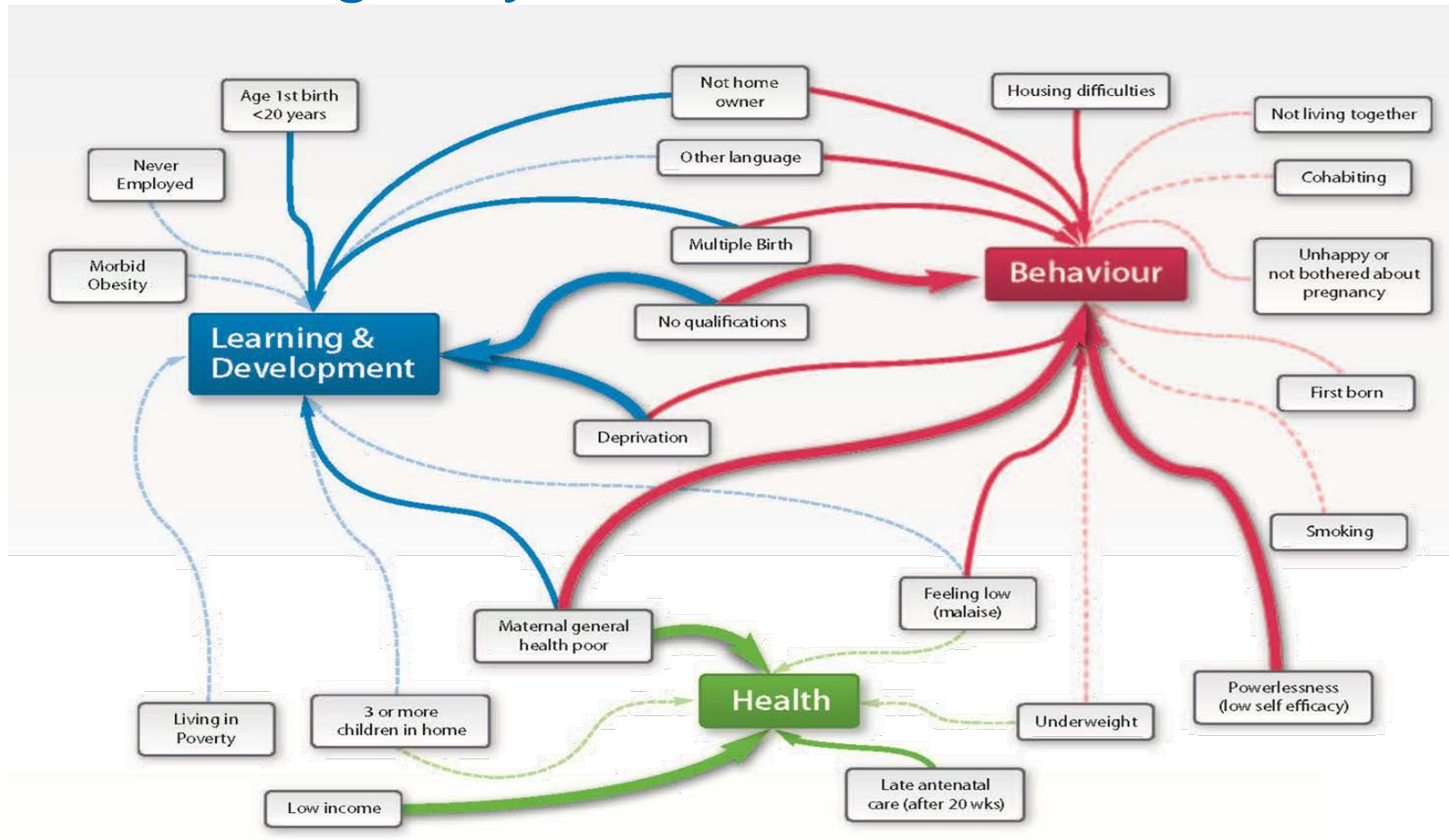
### Defining and conducting the review

- Identifying relevant study inclusion/exclusion criteria
- Guiding the literature search strategy
- Explaining the rationale behind surrogate outcomes used in the review
- Justifying need for subgroup analyses (e.g., age, sex/gender, socioeconomic status)

### Making the review relevant to policy and practice

- Structuring reporting of results
- Illustrating how harms and feasibility are connected with interventions
- Interpreting results based on intervention theory and systems thinking

# Maternal factors that impact on poor child outcomes age 5 years



Source: Using information and intelligence to improve local decision-making for high quality, cost effective services, Child and Maternal Health Observatory



# Slum upgrading review

Turley et al 2013 Slum upgrading review: methodological challenges that arise in systematic reviews of complex interventions

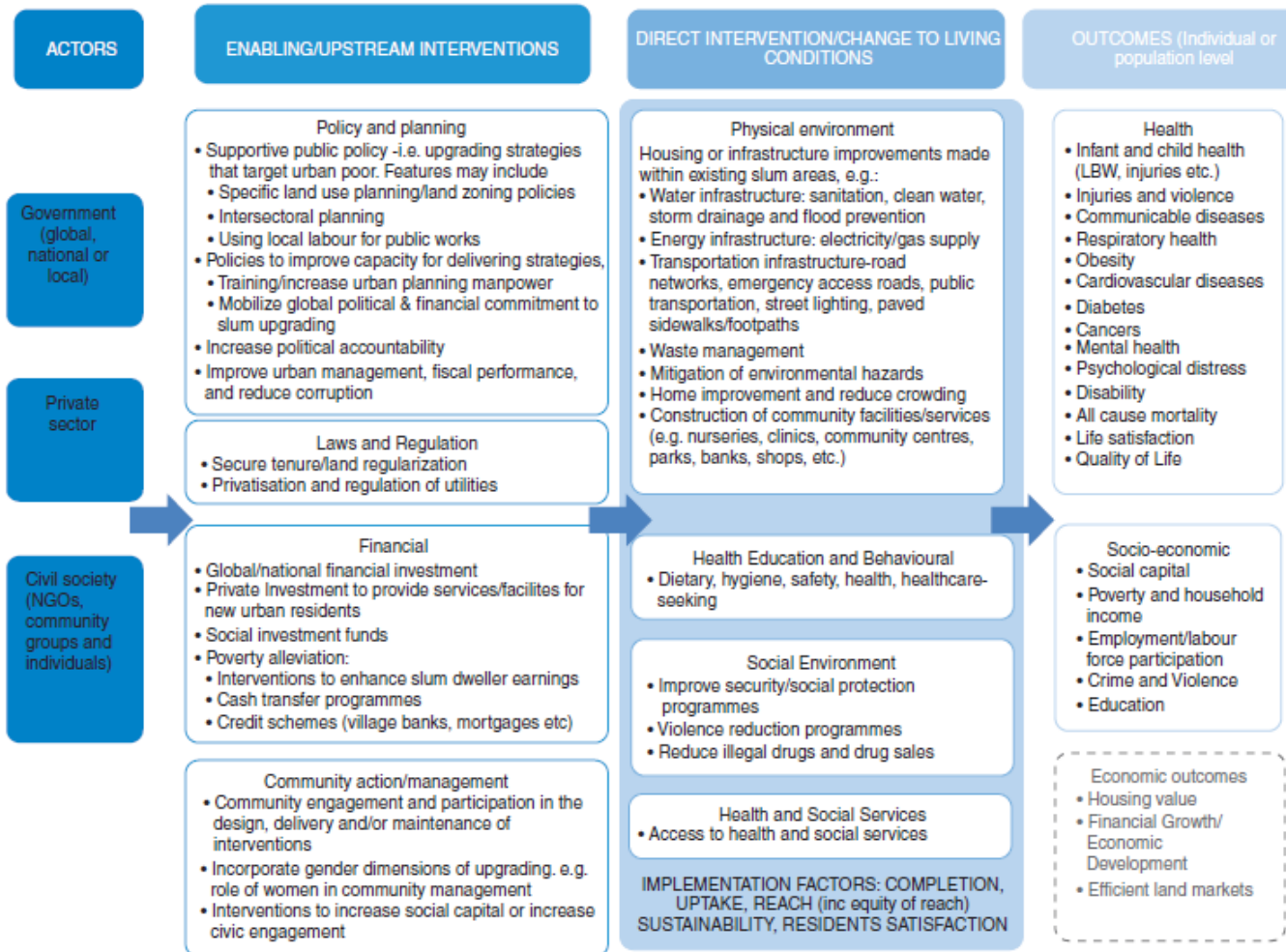


Fig. 1: Logic Model clarifying different aspects for the review (taken from fig 1, Turley et al. <sup>1</sup>).

**Guidance for review authors  
on choice and use of social  
theory in complex  
intervention reviews**



Jane Noyes, Maggie Hendry, Andrew Booth, Simon Lewin, Claire  
Glenton, Ruth Garside, Jackie Chandler

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**Stop, think and do exercise:**

Formulate your own review question using SPICE

## Question formulation: SPICE

<b>S</b>	<b>Setting</b>
P	Perspective
I	Phenomenon of Interest
C	Comparison
E	Evaluation



**Stop, think and do exercise:**

**Take your review question and draw a diagram to show some simple logic**

Eg: important concepts and anticipated relationships and outcomes