

**Review of Progress Implementation Report for  
NIOSH Traumatic Injury Program**

**Submitted by Board of Scientific Counselors**

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**BSC Working Group Members**

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**Recommendations In Progress:**

***Recommendation #1: Continue setting goals that are within the TI Research Program’s scope and resources.***

Progress:                    1                    2                    3                    4                    5

Brief Justification:

A strong thought out approach was used in reviewing, revising and prioritizing goals. Input was received both internally and from the external stakeholders. Priorities were selected using data, ability of existing staff, and potential impact.

They have done a great job of strategic planning. As a very interdisciplinary team it is so important for them to stay focused and the strategic plan is essential in helping the program avoid becoming unwieldy. While the strategic plan seems to be working well for the TI, the document did not discuss protocols for retiring goals, what the criteria are for doing that – more description would be useful. It would also be useful if new goals could be so designated in the report in a manner complimentary to the way that retired goals were designated.

Researchers in TI should also consider output goals related to improved public policy and data collection. Many of the data sets used by TI have the potential for improvement. As data users, NIOSH TI, working with BLS or other agencies, can improve data collection and should plan for and take credit for resultant improvements. Some of the priority initiatives at OSHA, such as temporary workers, would benefit from more consistent definitions and data collection methods that few outside of TI are able to contribute to.

Impact:                    1                    2                    3                    4                    5

Brief Justification:

Solid impacts were demonstrated for each subgoal. We applaud how they came up with these plans and staying focused. Action framework can help them benchmark and measure their progress.

***Recommendation #2: Develop an explicit plan for each subgoal..***

Progress:                    1                    2                    3                    4                    5

Brief Justification:

Clear goals were established, with performance measures added to each goal. The Motor Vehicle Safety program published a 5 year strategic plan. Applaud on how they came up with these plans and staying focused. Action framework can help them benchmark and measure their progress.

Impact:                    1                    2                    3                    4                    5

Brief Justification:

Because the performance measures were recently written, there has not been enough time to measure impact. The process established will allow the TI program to quickly evaluate the potential impact and make appropriate adjustments as needed. The document mentions quite a few different elements in the plan, such as Intermediate Goals and Activity/Output goals – a very complicated plan. It will be important to make sure in the next steps that the plan continues to be a good guidepost for the team.

***Recommendation #3: Work with other federal agencies that support injury prevention and control research.***

Progress:                    1                    2                    3                    4                    5

Brief Justification:

This document showed a mindful approach to the goals of working with each agency. The continuation and frequency of meetings with other agencies will assist in providing sustainability. In addition, incorporating other agencies as partners and reviewers in projects helps to keep them engaged and may also work to sustain these relationships since they are often time consuming to maintain. This also provides good training to staff and further ability to distribute resources.

Impact:                    1                    2                    3                    4                    4.5                    5

Brief Justification:

Reaching out to other agencies has allowed for broader dissemination and acceptance of information. For example, having other agencies review drafts of developed products will increase the willingness of these programs to share or even use the information. Cost savings have been demonstrated. Very focused on reasons for working with each agency, including data quality and process issues. Is difficult to show the impact of communication. Work on improving methods and data collection are also broadly helpful for the field.

***Recommendation #6: Ensure collaboration among NIOSH-funded researchers.***

Progress:                    1                    2                    3                    4                    5

Brief Justification:

This goal is larger than just the TI program, but they are doing an excellent job of identifying areas for integration within and outside of NIOSH. They continue to work with other programs, sharing and using data obtained from extramural funding, acting as technical advisors for cooperative agreements, and scientific advisors for the ERCs and Ag Centers. They have also identified shared goals with other NIOSH programs to allow for internal collaboration.

There is the question of how does the strategic plan guide the reaching out to both external partners and internal researchers? What is it that helps guide and keep it manageable? There are interesting tools and data available in the TI program, and they are good at reaching throughout the agency to figure out where cross-over occurs.

Impact:                    1                    2                    3                    4                    5

Brief Justification:

They have demonstrated increased awareness of NIOSH programs. It is expected that coordination of messages and expanded outreach through known sources will lead to improved worker safety; however, it is too early to show whether this is working. They have also demonstrated knowledge gained from hosting NOIRS and a webinar on workplace violence. It is not clear how the guiding principles organize and identify these collaborations.

***Recommendation #9: Research prevention strategies for traumatic injuries in a changing workplace.***

Progress:                    1                    2                    3                    4                    5

Brief Justification:

The TI program has identified a number of new initiatives including focusing on high risk populations, new technologies, personal behaviors, safety cultures and climate change. These initiatives have been incorporated into their strategic plan and reviewed by partners both internally and externally for increased approval and recognition.

They have some unique things such as safety culture, automated vehicles, and health disparities. Issues such as safety culture cross over other areas of NIOSH; so again, there are questions as to how collaboration is approached.

It may be useful to address possible collaborative goals that enhance the opportunities to work with other agencies. For example, Dept of Labor goals related to temporary workers, electronic reporting mechanisms and under-reporting of injuries.

Impact:                    1                    2                    3                    4                    4.5                    5

Brief Justification:

While mechanisms are in place to measure the impact of this, research takes a while to complete and then to have an impact. It is too early to rate the impact of this work.

Are they thinking about different work organizations? Other areas in NIOSH are thinking about this and there may be the potential for collaboration.