# LICENSING MEASUREMENT AND MONITORING SYSTEMS

**Regulatory Science Applied to Human Services Regulatory Administration** 

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# Research Institute for Key Indicators

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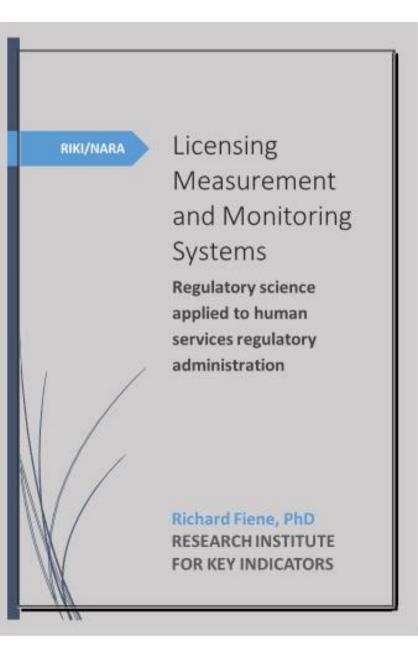
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### INTRODUCTION TO LICENSING MEASUREMENT

- The need for addressing licensing measurement and monitoring systems. Why now?
- Regulatory science is a relatively new science.
- Regulatory science, the FDA, and the medical arena.
- History of licensing measurement.
- History of standards/rule development in early care & education.
- NARA's Licensing Curriculum.
- NARA's Course on licensing measurement and systems.
- The bottom line: Licensing data are very unique, not like most of the social science data we encounter.

# **CONCEPTUAL/THEORETICAL FOUNDATION**

- Regulatory compliance theory of diminishing returns.
- Differential monitoring.
- From theory to conceptual.
- Methods for achieving quality child care model.
- Early childhood program quality improvement & indicator model.
- Regulatory compliance paradigms: Absolute vs Differential.
- Ten elements of regulatory compliance paradigms.
- The balancing act.

### TEN ELEMENTS OF REGULATORY COMPLIANCE PARADIGMS

- 1) Substantial versus Monolithic.
- 2) Differential Monitoring versus One size fits all monitoring.
- 3) Not all standards are created equal vs All standards are created equal.
- 4) "Do things well" versus "Do no harm".
- 5) Strength based versus Deficit based.
- 6) Formative versus Summative.
- 7) Program Quality versus Program Compliance.
- 8) 100-0 scoring versus 100 or 0 scoring.
- 9) QRIS versus Licensing.
- 10) Non-Linear versus Linear.

## PRINCIPLES OF INSTRUMENT DESIGN

- Anecdotal & case record keeping.
- Introduction of instrument-based program monitoring.
- Reliability.
- Validity and validation studies.
- Statistical methods.
- Data bases.
- Nominal data measurement.
- Nominal to ordinal measurement.
- Lack of variance in the data.
- Need for weighting.
- Limitations of nominal measurement.

# REGULATORY COMPLIANCE & PROGRAM QUALITY

- Quality initiatives
- Quality rating and improvement systems.
- Accreditation.
- Professional development.
- Relationship of regulatory compliance and program quality based upon the regulatory compliance theory of diminishing returns.
- The ten elements of regulatory compliance and program quality continuum.
- Implications for monitoring systems.

#### TEN ELEMENTS OF REGULATORY COMPLIANCE AND PROGRAM QUALITY CONTINUUM

- 1) "Do no harm" versus "Do good".
- 2) Closed system versus Open system.
- 3) Rules versus Indicators.
- 4) Nominal versus Ordinal measurement.
- 5) Full versus Partial compliance.
- 6) Ceiling effect versus No Ceiling effect.
- 7) Gatekeeper versus Enabler.
- 8) Risk versus Performance.
- 9) Structural versus Process Quality.
- 10) Hard versus Soft Data

### **EVOLUTION OF MONITORING SYSTEMS**

- Compliance monitoring, process monitoring.
- Coordinated monitoring systems.
- Qualitative monitoring systems.
- Instrument-based program monitoring
- Differential/Inferential program monitoring.
- Key indicator approach.
- Risk assessment approach.
- Integrative program monitoring: Regulatory compliance x quality.

### WHAT RESEARCH TELLS US AND DOESN'T

- Idiosyncracies of licensing data.
- Skewed distributions and potential reasons why.
- Ceiling/plateau effect.
- Curvi-linear/non-linear data vs linear data: Common assumption.
- The dichotomization of data, why it is warranted.
- Limitations of nominal data measurement.
- Dealing with false negatives and false positives.
- The need for validation studies.
- Exploring regulatory compliance and quality interactions.
- International data base is available for researchers.

### **FUTURE DIRECTIONS**

- Continue validating monitoring systems.
- Nominal to ordinal measurement.
- Balance between efficiency and effectiveness.
- Balancing act between regulatory compliance and quality.
- Continued development and validation of quality indicators.
- Further development of the international data base of regulatory and quality indicators.
- Continued development of statistical methods to deal with skewed data distributions, false negatives, and the other licensing data idiosyncracies.
- Ability to better distinguish between the high quality performers and mediocre performers because of the ceiling/plateauing effect.

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