

## CFIR Rating Rules

Ratings						
M	-2	-1	0	X	+1	+2

In general, ratings are determined based on two factors: 1) valence and 2) strength.

### **Valence: positive or negative influence on implementation**

*Rating component: X, 0, +, -*

The valence component of a rating is determined by the influence the coded data has on the implementation process, i.e., contextual factors that facilitate or hinder implementation. Due to limited data, analysts may have to infer the influence on implementation based on simple presence or absence of a construct. For example, if a participant states that the intervention has advantages over existing programs, but does not state how this has influenced implementation, the analyst can infer that the presence of relative advantage facilitated implementation. However, whenever the data allows, the analysts should apply ratings based on the influence the construct has on implementation, not the presence or absence of a construct; presence or absence of a positive construct (e.g. relative advantage) does not always constitute a matching positive or negative influence on implementation.

In the event that comments are mixed, i.e., some comments are negative and some comments are positive, try to tip the rating to a weak positive or weak negative, based on the aggregate of the comments. However, if you feel the comments are equally positive and negative, apply a mixed (X) rating. Some users of the CFIR have denoted level of agreement among participants in their rating by adding a \* to the rating if comments were mixed. For example, if the aggregate of mixed comments was positive, the rating was +1\*. Some users feel it's important to record discord among participants because it indicates a negative influence on implementation.

In the event that the comments are neutral, i.e., comments are related to a construct but have no bearing on the implementation, apply the neutral (0) rating.

### **Strength: weak or strong influence on implementation**

*Rating component: 1, 2*

The strength component of a rating is determined by a number of factors, including: level of agreement among participants, strength of language, and use of concrete examples. However, sometimes analysts may choose to apply relative ratings, versus absolute ratings, in order to differentiate between organization in the study.