

[Open Peer Review on Qeios](#)

Mechanism of action through material entity

Behaviour Change Intervention Ontology (BCIO)

Source

Behaviour Change Intervention Ontology (BCIO)

Definition: Behaviour change intervention mechanism of action in which the causal influence affects a material entity.

Comment: The relation between ‘mechanism of action through material entity’ and ‘material entity’ is labelled as ‘through’. The ‘through’ relationship is defined as: ‘A relation that holds between an intervention’s mechanism of action and an entity x, in which the entity x (a) participates in or is part of the mechanism of action process and (b) is influenced by a BCI or its context such that there is some change in entity x.’ In this definition, ‘change’ refers to change from what would have been the case rather than change from an existing state of affairs. This is to capture the fact that mechanisms of action can act to sustain a current state of affairs, for example preventing smoking uptake. In the definition, ‘some change’ captures changes in salience, change in valence, or being added, increased, decreased, manifested/realised, created, started, stopped or altered rate.

This definition was imported from the Behaviour Change Intervention Ontology (see <https://bciosearch.org/>). Comments and suggestions for improvements are welcome using the Qeios review system.

Definitions imported from the Behaviour Change Intervention Ontology (BCIO) are what are known as ‘ontological definitions’. See this article in Qeios for an explanation <https://www.qeios.com/read/YGIF9B>.

Ontological definitions can sometimes be hard to read. In those cases we also include an informal definition.

Definitions also often require elaboration to make it clear how they should be used and what they include. In those cases we include a comment.



Also, definitions sometimes require an explanation as to how they came about to help users understand how they relate to alternative definitions. In those cases we include a curator note.