

Review of: "Why are there different versions of the COM-B model diagram?"

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Review of the article "Why are there different versions of the COM-B model diagram?", by Robert West and Susan Michie

The article is informative, well-written, clear, concise. Has a logical structure and a concise summary, and provides a useful overview of the COM-B model and its diagrams. The COM-B model is a general framework for understanding and predicting human behaviour, and designing interventions to influence it.

The authors describe the different levels of elaboration of the model, and how they affect the specification of the causal links between capability, opportunity, motivation and behaviour. It clarifies some common misconceptions and questions about the COM-B model diagram, and offers practical guidance for applying it in different situations. They also provide examples of when it may be useful to include more or less detail in the diagram, depending on the purpose and context of the analysis. The article is based on the authors' extensive experience and expertise in behaviour change science, and references their previous publications on the COM-B model and its applications.

The article also acknowledges some limitations of the model, such as its lack of specificity on how to measure or manipulate its constructs, and its need for further empirical testing and refinement. However, the article could benefit from an acknowledgement of the areas that need further research and development, and from a critical evaluation of the strengths and limitations of the COM-B model and its diagrams. A discussion of the empirical evidence for the validity and reliability of the model, or from a comparison with other models of behaviour change, would be beneficial too. The article could also be improved by providing more examples and evidence to support the claims, and by addressing some potential limitations or challenges of using the COM-B model in practice and in different settings or populations.

The article is relevant for anyone interested in behaviour change theory and intervention, especially those who use or plan to use the COM-B model in their work, and is timely, as the COM-B model is widely used in various domains of behaviour change, such as health promotion, environmental protection, education and policy making.

I hope these comments are helpful.

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