

INCLUSIVE RESEARCH

WHAT IS INCLUSIVE RESEARCH?

Inclusive research involves individuals with intellectual disabilities (ID) throughout the entire research process. As such, this research is conducted **with** the community being studied, rather than **for** them. Inclusive techniques utilize the knowledge and insights of people with ID to produce research that is accurate and relevant to the population it pertains to.

TIPS FOR INCLUSIVE RESEARCH

1 **Involve people with ID throughout the entire research process.**

This includes involving individuals with ID in the development of research topics, questions, methods, analysis, and dissemination.

2 **Train researchers in representation and inclusion.**

Researchers should be trained to conduct research that is truly inclusive. For example, training covering how best to include individuals with ID of all levels of abilities.

3 **Results should be tangible and practical.**

Tangible and practical results provide the opportunity for positive real-world impacts for individuals with ID, rather than just furthering academic theory.

4 **Communicate results in accessible formats.**

It is critical that results are disseminated effectively to the population they pertain to. For individuals with ID, this means disseminating results in an easy-to-read, accessible formats. Ask for feedback from people with ID to ensure that all materials are accessible.

5 **Empower people with disabilities to conduct their own research.**

Research may feel inaccessible to individuals with ID. Researchers should encourage, empower, and educate individuals with ID to conduct their own research.