

Bridging the Gap

Enhancing Transparency and Inclusion in Research Participation

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INTRODUCTION

Randomised Controlled Trials (RCTs) are the gold standard for evaluating health technologies, yet many publicly funded trials face significant recruitment challenges. Only **55%** of trials meet their recruitment target; **78%** reach at least 80% of their target. **Participant Information Sheets (PISs)** support informed consent, yet over **50%** are deemed difficult to read, which may deter participation and erode trust in research. Clear, accessible research materials are vital for an inclusive and ethical research culture. **STIM-HD** is a multi-centre RCT assessing whether Neuromuscular Electrical Stimulation (NMES) improves muscle mass and function in haemodialysis patients. A **Study Within a Trial (SWAT)**, embedded in the STIM-HD study, will develop and evaluate culturally sensitive PISs.

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PROPOSED METHODS

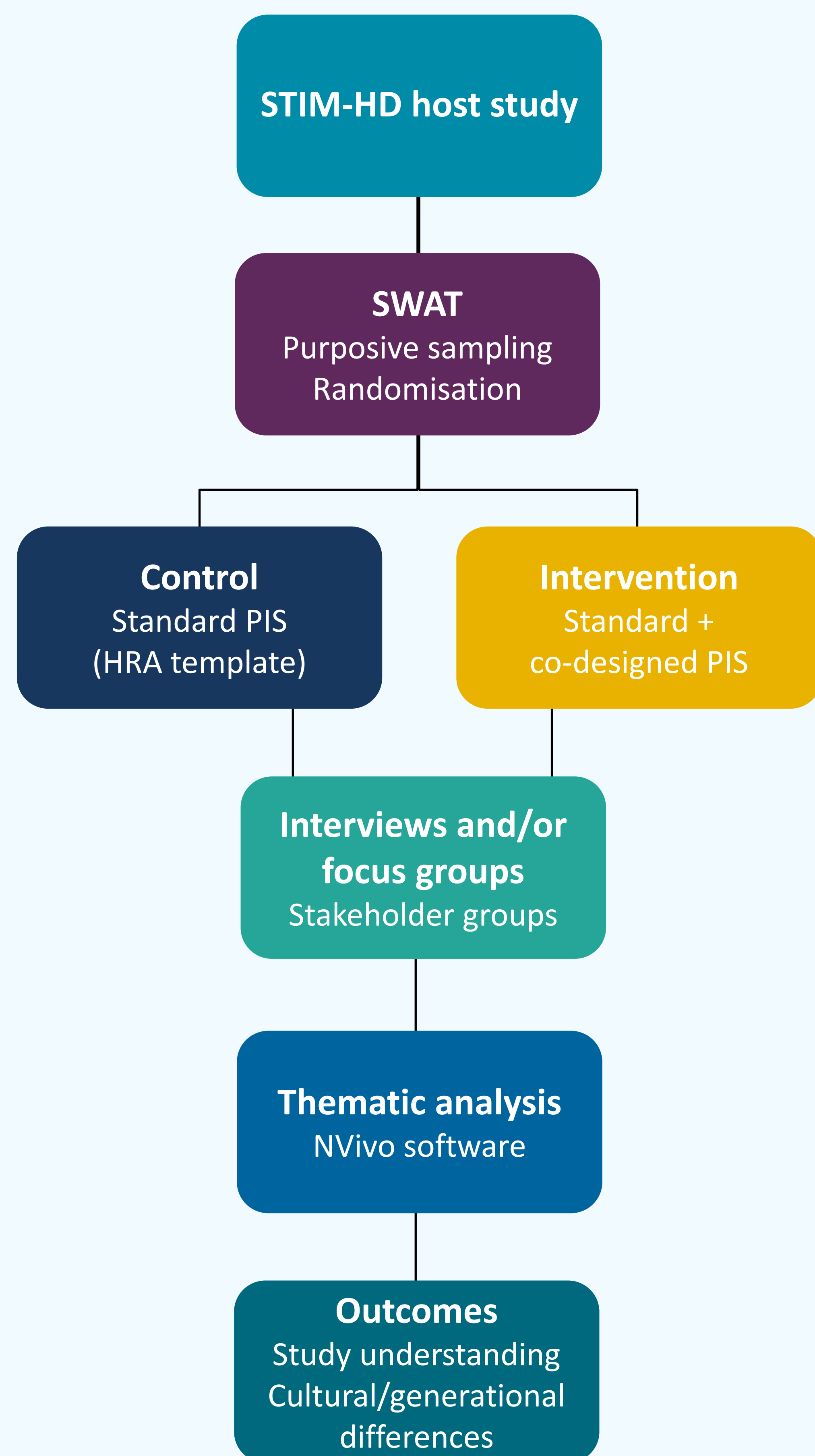
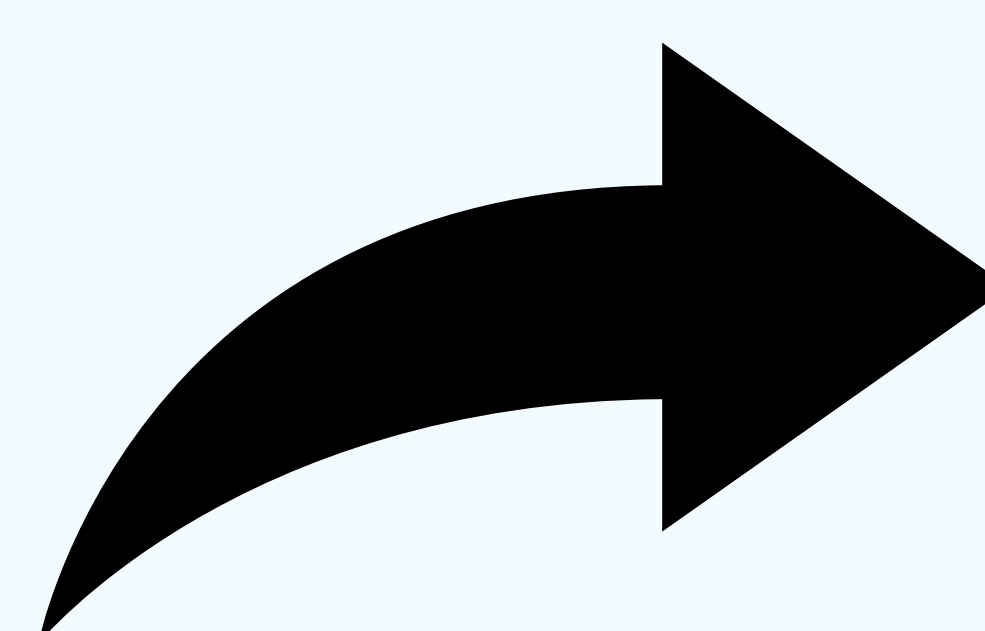


Figure 1: Process flow for SWAT



STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY



Figure 2: Stakeholder groups

ANTICIPATED STAKEHOLDER OUTPUTS

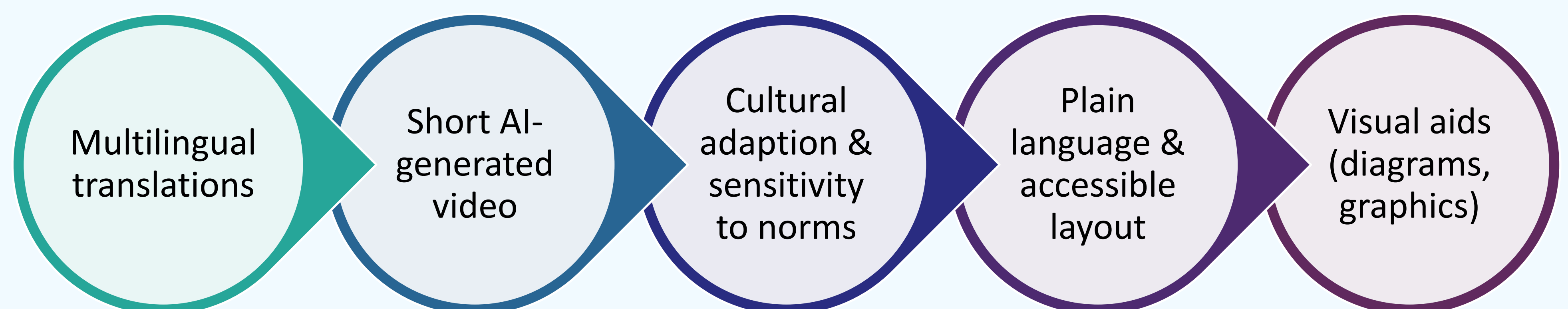


Figure 3: Co-design outputs

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EXPECTED OUTCOMES & IMPACT

Recommendations to
enhance accessibility
of study information

Greater
transparency and
trust in the consent
process

Increased
inclusivity and
participant
engagement

Improved study
recruitment and
ethical compliance

Building a more
ethical and
effective research
environment

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