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ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

The Influence of Evaluation Recommendations on Instrumental and Conceptual

Uses: A Preliminary Analysis

Running Head: Evaluation Recommendations

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Highlights:

- Evaluation recommendations included in Canadian federal evaluation reports focus on relevance and effectiveness, as per policy requirements.
- They predominantly either propose one option and describe how it should be implemented, or they recommend a more strategic series of options to be considered by the department.
- Their main focus is on program design and management as well as on improving performance measurement strategies.
- No discernible trends were observed in terms of departmental mandate.

Abstract

Evaluation recommendations are sometimes included in evaluation reports to

highlight specific actions to be taken to improve a program or to make other changes to

its operational context. This preliminary study sought to examine evaluation

recommendations drawn from 25 evaluation reports published by Canadian federal

government departments and agencies, in order to examine the evaluation issues covered

and the focus of the recommendations. Our results show that in keeping with policy

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