DEVELOPING A QUALITY PLAN FOR PREVENTION SCIENCE EDUCATION AND TRAINING IN EUROPE

Aims cont’d
- Recommend what should be done on Pan-European level in order to harmonize and further support consistent development of prevention science.

Methods
Results from the SPAN European survey of prevention science education and training provision, needs, and research were summarised, and considered alongside existing quality frameworks, in the development of a draft quality plan for higher level skills and competencies for prevention science in Europe.

Quality Plan
The QP sets out the tasks that are required in order to improve the integration of Prevention Science education / degree across Europe. This can be done through quality assurance standards, employment of standard methods and clearly defined approaches in Tertiary Education.

Implementation strategies
QP introduces implementation strategies at the institutional and European level. Implementation strategies on the institutional level may be guided by and supported from the European level (e.g., developing a model curriculum of prevention science courses leading to specialization or a whole study program).

However, the success of implementation lays primarily on activities executed at the institutional level (e.g., choosing a person within the institution that will be responsible not only for implementing prevention science education according to the QP but also will be capable of persuading the institution management that prevention science should be included amongst educational priorities of the institution).

Available of QP
A draft QP is already available to the SPAN partners. The final version of the QP is expected to be published on-line on the SPAN website (see below) by March 2015.

Conclusions
Looking forward, a final part of the SPAN project will support selected institutions to develop an action plan to implement the quality plan, and set within the European Credit Accumulation and Transfer System (ECTS) to facilitate student mobility in Europe.

References

Košir et al. (2014). Mapping Prevention Science Education in Europe. 5th EUSPR Conference, 16-18 October 2014, Palma de Mallorca, Majorca.

EnQA (2009, pp 7). "Institutions should have formal mechanisms for the approval, periodic review and monitoring of their programs and awards". However, the level of quality of education on the European level should be a regular item on the agenda at the SPAN meetings.


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