The European Xchange registry and national prevention registries: How shall we move forward together?

Discussions to be initiated by Nick Axford, David Foxcroft, Charlotte de Kock, Fabrizio Faggiano, Gregor Burkhart

Wednesday, 18th September, 9:00-13:00

This workshop will focus on three topics: 1) European prevention programmes, 2) Common issues facing prevention registries in Europe and 3) Collaboration between national registries in Europe and Xchange. Xchange is a European registry of evidence-based programmes (http://www.emcdda.europa.eu/best-practice/xchange_en), maintained by the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA).

At the moment, Xchange contains links to several European registries as well as Blueprints for Health Youth Development (US). National prevention registries – either online repositories or catalogues of recommended practices – have varying degrees of sophistication and differ considerably concerning their inclusion and exclusion criteria. Some registries aim at collecting “best practices” (e.g. because the logic model is plausible and the intervention well designed), others only include empirically proven interventions, while others include a mix of both. Some focus on discrete issues, such as substance use, violence or mental health while others focus on child development more broadly. Moreover, the strategic objectives range from collecting what is feasible (i.e. documenting the status quo) to demanding higher evaluation and resultant evidence thresholds for funding prevention interventions.

We would like to invite those who are involved in or responsible for similar registries to this post-conference workshop. The workshop might also be of interest to those who are considering setting up a registry of evidence-based programmes in their country or those interested in discussing the potential as well as political and scientific implications of having such a national registry. Moreover, we will focus on the aspects of evaluation of effectiveness by means of RCTs and real world contexts of delivery.

The first aim is to revisit the discussion initiated during the camp-fire session on evidence-based programmes in Europe (Campfire session 2: Why do flagship evidence-based programmes from the US run aground in Europe, and how should online repositories of programmes deal with this?).

The second aim is to deepen the debate concerning common registry-related issues, for example:

- Inclusion processes and different levels of evidence
- Whether to focus only on manualised programmes or to include other means of intervention
- Rating criteria
- Pros and cons of including and showcasing ineffective interventions
- The time limits for excluding evaluation studies
- How long to keep programmes in a registry and when to exclude ‘extinct’ programmes
- How to increase the use and usefulness of registries for policy making and practice
The third aim is to explore the ‘win-win’ potential of national registries and Xchange learning from one another and collaborating to a greater degree. For example:

- What are the success factors for the popularity of national registries?
- Which incentives are used to encourage policy makers to use national registries, and are they successful?
- Do registries contribute to improving prevention strategies and funding criteria, and if so how?
- Can we set up a European network of registries responsible for mutual input, and how will we operate?