European drug prevention quality standards

Funding country: United Kingdom
Project starting year: 2008
Project ending year: 2010
Area(s) of research: Prevalence, incidence and patterns of drug use, Prevention responses

Objectives:
This publication will help steer efforts in the right direction. Using an empirically derived reference framework, it bridges the gaps between science, policy and practice. Based on an overview of existing standards in Europe and beyond, a number of highly respected experts from EU Member States and international organisations worked together to prepare the publication. In this series, information, advice, and guidance are offered to professionals and practitioners. Well structured and with many useful tables and figures, this publication will help its users as they progress from a first needs assessment to the delivery of an intervention and its final evaluation. Correct implementation of prevention measures with evidence-based components and anchoring them within existing structures and services (or activities) is key to ensuring effectiveness and it helps to avoid unintended iatrogenic effects. This manual will provide valuable guidance in this respect and allow preventive interventions to reach their full potential.

Scientific discipline(s) involved: Epidemiology

Initial identified needs:
European Union (EU) policy, such as the EU drugs action plans for 2005–08 and 2009–12, has expressed an intention to develop and implement best practice in drug prevention, but so far has not been able to provide a reference framework on how to do this. Guidance on drug prevention interventions is available in some Member States of the EU, but it varies in terms of its content, methodological rigour, and its applicability to the wider European context. In response to this situation, this project aimed to provide a commonly agreed reference framework that could help improve the state of drug prevention in the EU.

Performed by: Centre for Public Health, Liverpool John Moores University
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Summary references:

Website: www.cph.org.uk/drugprevention/
Published reference(s):