

Evidence based practice and practice-based evidence

improving youth care in the Netherlands

Marian de Graaf

Nederlands Jeugdinstituut / NJi

Utrecht, Nederland

- Introduction
- Database effective youth interventions
- A developmental model
- Supporting activities and facilities
- Conclusion

Database effective youth interventions

- Goal: contribute to the improvement of child and youth services, especially regarding their effectiveness
- The approach is twofold:
 - Transfer of knowledge and information
 - A developmental model

Elements of description

- Objectives
- Target group(s)
- Approach (methods)
- Conditions for implementation
- Problem analysis
- Theoretical basis
- *If available*: evidence of effectiveness

Assessment and recognition

- Assessment and recognition by independent experts from science and practice
- Only recognized interventions in the database

www.nji.nl/jeugdinterventies

- Database effective interventions
- Procedures and criteria assessment
- Background information
- Service pages (links to other databases, overviews, etc.)

Database in development

Collection of 880 titels

- 70 effective (a.o. Triple P)
- 40 promising
- 70 not suitable
- 600 in research or ready to be

A developmental model

- Staged system of assessment
- Tentative recognition

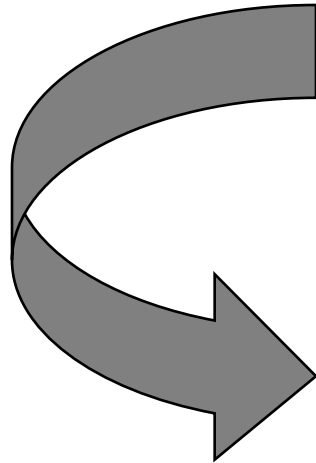
Veerman, J.W. & Yperen, T.A. (2007): Degrees of certainty. A developmental model for the establishment of evidence-based youth care. *Evaluation and Program Planning* 30 (2), 212-221

Two strategies

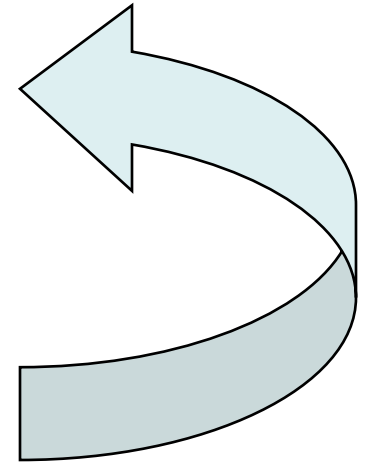
1. Top-down: implementation of evidence based interventions
 - only a few interventions will survive now
 - It takes a very long time
 - It cost a lot of money
 - all together: frustrating practice

Two strategies

2. Bottom-up strategy: developing practice based evidence
 - Motivates professionals
 - Saves money: expensive effect studies only if goals appear to be realized



Evidence-based practice



Practice-based evidence

Level of evidence	What to do
4. Causal evidence	<i>show: effect is caused by the intervention</i>
3. Indicative evidence	<i>show: goals are attained</i>
2. Theoretical evidence	<i>argue: why should it work</i>
1. Descriptive evidence	<i>describe what you do</i>

Level of evidence	Probability effectiveness
4. Causal	well-established
3. Indicative	functional
2. Theoretical	plausible
1. Descriptive	potential

Level	database
4. Causal <i>show: outcome is caused by intervention</i>	www.nji.nl/jeugdinterventies
3. Indicative <i>show: goals are attained</i>	
2. Theoretical <i>argue: why it should work</i>	Interventions must meet the second level to be entered into the database.
1. Descriptive <i>describe what you do</i>	

Level	Type of research	Mark
5	+ random assignm of subjects to experimental and control group	*****
4	+ follow-up (min 6 months)	****
3	+ with follow-up (min 6 months)	***
2	+ intervention and control group	**
1	basic requirements effect study + pre- and posttest	*
0	no requirements effect study	o

Level	Type of research	Mark
4	RCT, repeated case studies	***** *****
3	Quasi experimental, theory of change, monitoring studies	*** ** *
	Goal attainment studies	o
2	Reviews, expert-knowledge	
1	Descriptive studies	

Bottom-up activities

Support professionals

- by providing knowledge about best practices, what works, effect studies etc.
- by helping to describe an intervention and provide it with a solid theoretical basis
- to carry out goal attainment studies

facilities

- A uniform structure of recognition
- One database youth interventions
- Cooperation between knowledge institutes
- Introduction on an national scale of achievement indicators in youth care

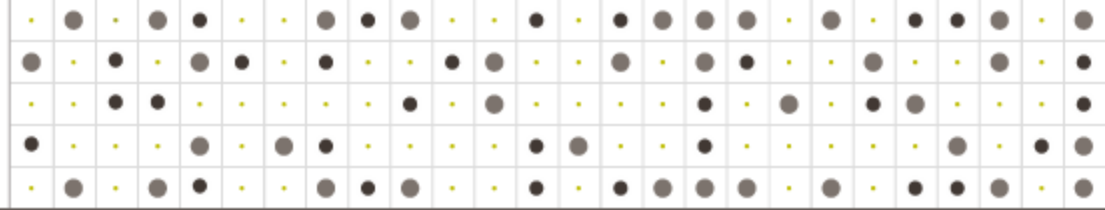
Summary

The improvement of youth care depends on a productive synergy of top-down and bottom-up processes.

In the Netherlands facilities have been developed to support this synergy



• Nederlands
Jeugd
• instituut



www.nji.nl/jeugdinterventies

Thank you