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Conference Abstract

Local community policy for community care development

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Abstract

The discourse on the abundance of options to help individuals in the areas of health care and social assistance and the possible personal inability to make use or take advantage of these resources leads to unequal opportunities for health and well-being. In order to overcome existing obstacles for developing necessary integrated treatment, for example, Slovenia adopted an act on mental health, which, according to the results of an evaluation study of the public policy effects, failed to yield the desired results.

A methodological framework of a cross-sectional study in 56 municipalities in two health regions was developed in order to identify the state, obstacles, needs and development vision of integrated care from the point of view of administrative subjects, health care and social assistance providers, and users of the mental health care system in Slovenia.

The prepared selection of typical statements (convictions, positions, points of view) by key administrative subjects, experts and users, the reason for the gap between health care and social assistance was proven on the entire vertical line at the macro-, meso- and micro levels of the system.

Afterwards, the needed financially acceptable measures for implementation within the local community framework were prepared and adopted.

The most important generators of harmonised activities by all types of operators are synergistically working individuals with technical knowledge, communication skills and personal motivation. The prepared guidelines for more effective operation within the mental health support network in the local community need to be integrated into formal education and lifelong learning of all participants.

Keywords

integrated care, local community policy, mental health system in slovenia, users` need, ethics