



## Poster 22 – 2018 Nordic Implementation Conference

### Introducing a method to assess mental health at Child Health Clinics: a process evaluation

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#### *Background*

This process evaluation is embedded in the Children and Parents in Focus trial, a study focusing on preventing behavioural problems in preschool children. As part of the trial, a method for information sharing between preschools and Child Health Clinics was introduced in 2013. The information sharing was performed using parent- and teacher reports of the Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire.

#### *Project aim*

This study aims to describe the implementation process of the new method to assess children's mental health at Child Health Clinics (CHCs) in Sweden. The evaluation seeks to describe how the new method was implemented, and to understand the role of context. Also, the effects of deliberate actions aimed to facilitate implementation will be evaluated. In addition, categories from our previous qualitative interviews on nurses' perspectives of barriers and facilitators at the start of the project will be revisited using questionnaires.

#### *Project methods*

Informed by Moore's model for process evaluation both quantitative and qualitative methods will be utilised to assess the key components of process evaluation: Implementation, Mechanisms of impact and Context. Quantitative process data obtained from the trial will be analysed across four domains: fidelity, dose, adaptations and reach. Qualitative data include semi-structured interviews, focus group interviews and questionnaires.

#### *Project results*

Six months into the study, semi-structured interviews with nurses (n = 10) were collected and analysed using grounded theory. The theoretical model developed described that the causal conditions and current context of child healthcare in many respects endorsed the introduction of information sharing, but also that successful implementation required considerable work to address barriers. The results led to actions to facilitate implementation including redesigning the questionnaires, sending out newsletters to CHCs, and having regular meetings with nurses.

#### *Preliminary or final conclusions/discussion*

This evaluation uses an approach to combine quantitative measures of implementation with qualitative exploration of the stakeholders' perceptions in order to explain implementation outcomes. The results will add to previous knowledge of clinical improvement and implementation processes, and about the contribution deliberate actions can make when introducing new practices. The approach to revisit previous findings can reveal if identified barriers have been rectified and if new ones have emerged.