Primary results of the Spanish adaptation of the Universal Prevention Curriculum (UPC)

Orte, C., Ballester, L., Fernández-de-Álava, M., Pascual, B., Vives, M., Amer, J. and Gomila, M.A.

University of the Balearic Islands (Spain) Social and Educational Training and Research Group (GIFES) carmen.orte@uib.es / http://gifes.uib.eu / http://upc-adapt.eu

# **GOALS OF THE UPC-ADAPT**

Main Objective: to train prevention professionals with standardized curriculum Specific Objectives:

To establish an **European curriculum**, based on the UPC.

To establish quality standards for staff in prevention.

To cover **universal quality standards** to the practice floor of prevention. To **promote teamwork in 9 EU countries (Estonia, Poland, Czech Rep, Germany, Belgium, Zagreb, Slovenia, Italy and Spain)**; connected with civil society, academics, practitioners, policy, and the EUSPR net.

# **GOAL OF THIS POSTER**

To show the initial Spanish contribution to this project [UPC-Adapt] concerning the review of the existing prevention curricula in Spain and the mapping of the training needs in the target audiences and the identification of contextual elements for training design

# METHOD AND SAMPLE

#### INTRODUCTION

Evidence-based programs are getting increasingly important. The Universal Prevention Curriculum (UPC), a comprehensive training package in the field of drug use prevention, is based on evidencebased principles. The UPC was developed through the APSI (Applied Prevention Science International, <u>www.apsintl.org</u>).

### RESULTS

# 1. Mapping of existing DEGREES with prevention curriculum in Spain

	Degree in		
	Psychology	Social	Social Work
		Education	
Universidad de Sevilla	1		
Universidad de Málaga	2	1	1
Universidad Complutense de	2	1	
Madrid			
Universidad de las Islas Baleares	2	1	1
Universitat Oberta de Catalunya	2	1	
Universidad de Granada	2	1	1
Universidad de Valencia	1	1	1
Universidad de Las Palmas	1	1	1
Universitat de Girona	1	1	1
Universidad de Santiago de	1	1	1
Compostela			
Universidad de Barcelona	2		Without data
Universidad de Oviedo	1		2
Universidad de Salamanca		1	No degree offer
Universitat Ramon Llull		1	1

Our contribution draws on qualitative data from three focus groups in a sample of 31 participants **(13 practitioners and policy makers, 6 academics and 12 university students)** and on document analysis. Information collected:

#### Existing study support documents in general, and specifically for online prevention.

We included articles from the literature review of: drugs prevention; alcohol use and misuse. Prevention and treatment: tobacco use, toxic drugs use, diseases and disorders, cannabis use, intravenous drug use, and opium use.

#### Existing prevention curricula in Spain (degrees and masters)

**Training needs in the target audiences** (policy makers, coordinators, implementers, academics and students).

3. Review of existing study support documents

#### Main results of this review:

- Family and school guidance.
- Appropriate policies for prevention and effective parts of programs.
- Risk/protective factors, reasons for drug use, and values, attitudes, and beliefs.
- The importance of fidelity of implementation, and training the trainers.

## 4. Training needs in the target audiences

#### Policy makers, coordinators, and implementers:

2. Mapping and review of existing MASTERS with prevention curriculum in Spain



**Method of presentation:** 5 in-class, 2 partial in-class/ blended learning, 4 online.

Number of credits: average of 161.6 ECTS credits (2 years long).
Formal recognition: Master's degree, Expert Diploma, Diploma.
Topics (i.e. substances, pharmacology, pathology, general prevention and/or specific school and family prevention).

- Messages of prevention: clarified on a universal level.
- More practical skills.
- Communication between the various departments.
- Easily applied to a master level.
- Continuous training to the current professors.

# Academics:

- Create deliberate spaces of intellectual cooperation and collaboration for students.
- Better understanding of the field of prevention.
- Improve the measures to evaluate the efficiency of prevention initiatives.
- The restrictions imposed by universities create a large barrier regarding the implementation of new curriculums.
- Students must have certain innate abilities and have experience in the field.

# **University Students:**

- Training for the teaching staff in order to become aware of the current needs of prevention
- More internships throughout the training.
- To enter in the training with abilities already cultivated and formed from previous years.
- The training must be in line with the cultural practices of the country.

# **DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION**

According to the abovementioned points, our conclusions are that there exists:

- 1. A lack of a homogeneous curriculum.
- 2. A lack of evaluation of current prevention initiatives.
- 3. A need of an academic and institutional recognition.
- 4. A lack of professors with practical experiences and adequate motivation.



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