Bi-weekly Newsletter

MEASURE-BiH

September 10 – September 21, 2018



WHO Mental Health Gap Action Programme (mhGAP)

WHO's mhGAP aims at scaling up services for mental, neurological and substance use disorders for countries especially with low- and middle-income. The program asserts that with proper care, psychosocial assistance and medication, tens of millions could be treated for depression, schizophrenia, and epilepsy, prevented from suicide and begin to lead normal lives — even where resources are scarce. They offer numerous resources, including training manuals, intervention guides, and reports.

Recommended News Articles and Blog Posts

Building an Early Childhood Health and Education Strategy Using a Developmental Evaluation Approach

Maternal Depression and Stunted Children: An Avoidable Reality

<u>Evaluating Resiliency and Mental Health Training in Disaster Impacted</u>
Communities

The Method is the Message: Lessons Learned from Analyzing Substance Use, Mental Health, and Emergency Department Visits via Claims Data

Understanding Systemic Trauma When Working With Latinx Communities

Contextual Visualization

A Multisystem Evaluation: Assessing a Mental Health Court in Ethiopia

Introduction to the Alcohol, Drug Abuse, and Mental Health

Recruiting People with Mental Health Conditions for Data Collection

Fostering a Learning Community to Improve the Health and Well-Being of Sexual and Gender Minority (SGM) Populations



Upcoming Events

October I

European Evaluation Conference 2018: Evaluation for More Resilient Societies, Thessaloniki, Greece

October 22

The Global Evidence and Implementation Summit 2018, Melbourne, Australia

Useful Sites

World Health Organization

European Federation of Psychologist's Association

Examples of Evaluation Projects

End-line Evaluation Report of
Deinstitutionalization of Orphans
and Vulnerable Children Project in
Uganda, USAID, August 2018

Final Evaluation of the International Rescue Committee's ESPOIR Project in the North and South Kivu Provinces of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), USAID, September 2014

Relevant Publications

Mental Health Atlas 2017 by WHO

WHO's Mental Health Atlas project, dates back to 2000 when a first assessment of available mental health resources in WHO Member States was carried out. Subsequent updates have been published since then and this edition is the latest update. The 2017 version of Mental Health Atlas provides up-to-date information on the availability of mental health services and resources across the world, including financial allocations, human resources and specialized facilities for mental health. Information was obtained via a questionnaire sent to designated focal points in each WHO Member State.

This new edition of Mental Health Atlas, carried out in 2017, assumes new importance as a repository of mental health information in WHO Member States, because it is providing much of the data of progress towards the objectives and targets of the Comprehensive Mental Health Action Plan 2013–2020. A total of six global targets were established for the four objectives of the Action Plan to measure collective action and achievement by Member States towards the overall goal.

This Action Plan contains four objectives: (I) To strengthen effective leadership and governance for mental health; (2) To provide comprehensive, integrated and responsive mental health and social care services in community based-settings; (3) To implement strategies for promotion and prevention in mental health; (4) To strengthen information systems, evidence and research for mental health.

As stated in the Action Plan, the indicators underpinning the six global targets represent only a subset of the information and reporting needs that Member States require to be able to adequately monitor their own mental health policies and programs. Thus in addition, WHO Secretariat prepared and proposed a more complete set of indicators for Member States for data collection and reporting to WHO.

These fourteen indicators became the basis for the Mental Health Atlas questionnaire and it formed the baseline measurement for the Comprehensive Mental Health Action Plan 2013–2020 with the data published in 2014. This Mental Health Atlas survey carried out during 2017, which reflects countries in 2016, will also be followed by another survey in 2020, so that progress towards meeting the targets of the Action Plan can be measured over time.



Recommended Reading

Measuring anxiety and depression in the oncology setting using visual-digital scales by Acta Oncologica

Authors investigated the feasibility of using single-item visual-digital scales for measuring anxiety and depression for research purposes within the oncology and palliative care setting. Data were retrieved from five nationwide postal questionnaires comprising 3,030 individuals.

They claim that many of the current measures of psychological morbidity, psychometric scales (e.g. CES-D), are lengthy and are therefore less suitable for the cancer population. So they use the one-item visual-analog scales and measure results.

Comparing the properties of these simple one-item measures with traditional psychometric scales, their aim was to investigate the feasibility of using visual-digital scales for measuring anxiety and depression in the context of cancer research.