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„Methodology of Evaluative Studies”

**Summary**

Formal school-based alcohol prevention programs and evaluations have been underway in the U.S. for about 30 years. However, many studies, and virtually all of the early studies, had important methodological flaws that made it difficult or impossible to evaluate their effects or learn from their experiences. The large number of poorly designed studies gave rise to some uncertainty about whether or not school-based prevention programs can really have an effect on use of alcohol and other substances by youth. The development and dissemination of sound research and evaluation designs for use by the research community has taken about 20 years. Although there are now established methodologies and research models, many popular programs are implemented without benefit of evaluation, based only on the enthusiasm of program planners. I hope that the experience of U.S. researchers and evaluators will be of use to our Polish colleagues.

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**Piśmiennictwo**

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