

luacji, dotyczących stopnia realizacji programu, odbioru i oceny programu przez uczestników itp.

Według naszego rozeznania krajowa oferta programów profilaktyki alkoholowej o sprawdzonej skuteczności jest aktualnie dość wąska. Ogranicza się zaledwie do kilku programów. W tej sytuacji potrzebne jest przede wszystkim poszerzenie krajowej oferty o dobre, skuteczne programy. Może temu służyć finansowanie przedsięwzięć polegających na tworzeniu nowych programów lub adaptacji dobrych zagranicznych programów o zbadanej skuteczności i w końcu doskonalenie już istniejących programów, takich jak na przykład Elementarz. Szczególnie godne polecenia jest inwestowanie w programy środowiskowe, które oprócz uczniów i nauczycieli angażują także inne osoby i instytucje w środowisku lokalnym.

Opracowywaniu programów powinny od początku towarzyszyć badania ewaluacyjne. Spełnienie tego postulatu umożliwia bowiem wykorzystanie wiedzy wynikającej z badań już w trakcie opracowywania programu oraz poznanie możliwości, jakie daje program, zanim zostanie wdrożony na szerszą skalę. W efekcie społeczności lokalne i działające na ich terenie organizacje społeczne, samorządy i instytucje oświatowe, miałyby możliwość korzystania z szerszej puli dobrych i sprawdzonych pomysłów na działania profilaktyczne.

Słowa kluczowe: ewaluacja, alkohol, programy profilaktyczne, młodzież szkolna

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Outcomes of the evaluative studies on the alcohol prevention program „Noah + Second Primer” as an example of the evaluation functions.

SUMMARY

Basic functions of prevention programs evaluation: getting acquainted with programs and improving them, as well as controlling their efficacy, are discussed on the example of the authors' experiences with the implementation of results of their research on the „Noah + Second Primer” program.

In particular, evaluation may contribute to:

- elimination of undesirable effects related to the program implementation;
- better training of the program implementers;
- introduction of required changes in the program contents or organization.

Evaluation serves also to assess the program efficacy. The effect of prevention interventions on the participants' behavior (e.g. on frequency of their alcohol drinking) is the most important, generally accepted measure of prevention programs effectiveness. In the assessment of effectiveness also indices indirectly related to alcohol drinking are used. These include intentions, attitudes, beliefs, knowledge and skills.

Evaluation of alcohol prevention programs effectiveness, like many other assessments, has its frame of reference in the form of outcomes obtained in other such programs in the country and abroad. Reviews of outcome studies suggest that there

are rather few prevention programs with a satisfactorily documented high efficacy. Programs whose positive outcomes have lasted over a follow-up period of some years since the program completion may be regarded as rare exceptions. Under the circumstances, requirements set before various preventive actions in the country should not be too strict. However, the following expectations should be met:

- 1) programs disseminated nationwide should be evaluated;
- 2) evaluation studies will fulfill basic methodological requirements;
- 3) widely disseminated programs will be effective. A minimal effectiveness is meant here, in the form of at least short-term, but statistically significant effect of the program on recipients' behaviors.

The revised Act on „Upbringing in Sobriety and Counteracting Alcoholism” holds local (communal) authorities responsible for solving alcohol problems and at the same time provides conditions for financing prevention programs. This seems to promote prevention activities, but simultaneously gives rise to doubts whether the funds guaranteed by legislators will be used appropriately. Reports on the Act implementation in 1997 (16) seem to justify such doubts. Evaluation of preventive activities undertaken by local self-governments may contribute to making a better use of the funds. Prevention programs implementers may be expected even now to introduce the most basic forms of evaluation, concerning the extent of the program implementation, the program reception and rating by the participants, etc.

As far as we know the range of alcohol prevention programs currently offered in Poland is rather narrow, being limited to a few programs only. What is needed in the situation consists, above all, in a greater variety of good, effective programs offered. This may be attained through financing the development of new original programs, adaptation of good foreign programs of well-known, evaluated efficacy, or finally, improvement of already existing programs such as e.g. the „Primer”. Our special recommendation goes for the investment in community programs involving not only students and teachers, but also other people and institutions in the local community.

Development of prevention programs should be accompanied from the very beginning by evaluation research. Fulfillment of this postulate allows to make use of knowledge yielded by research conducted during the program development and assessment of its potential before the program is widely implemented. In consequence, local communities, as well as social organizations, self-governments, and educational institutions working on their territory would have access to a wider range of good and verified ideas for prevention programs.

Key words: evaluation, alcohol, prevention programs, school children

PIŚMIENNICTWO

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