

EWALUACJA MODELU SZKOLENIA LEKARZY RODZINNYCH W ZAKRESIE PROFILAKTYKI I LECZENIA ALKOHOLOWYCH SZKÓD ZDROWOTNYCH

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EVALUATION OF TRAINING COURSES FOR FAMILY PHYSICIANS IN PREVENTION AND TREATMENT OF ALCOHOL-RELATED PROBLEMS

ABSTRACT – The goal of the study was to evaluate training courses in prevention and treatment of alcohol problems carried out as a result of the joint Polish-American project aimed at development of a medical education system in Poland. The education model was based on the American project SAEPF (Substance Abuse Education for Family Physicians) which consisted of 18 teaching methods that focused on clinical and prevention areas important for primary care physicians. There were three courses with the total group of 101 participants. The participants were taught by American and Polish facilitators using interactive teaching methods. The sample consisted mostly of family physicians and residents in family medicine (50,5%), other physicians (37,5%), medical schools' faculty (9%) and nurses (3%). The effectiveness of the training courses was evaluated using a pretest-posttest design with no control group. The pretest consisted of a self-report questionnaire completed before the course. The posttest consisted of a structured interview six or nine months after the course. Evaluation was based on the data from 93 participants (92% of the sample) who completed both pre- and posttest. The findings suggest significant increases in teaching activities conducted by the participants and positive changes in their clinical practice in prevention and treatment of alcohol problems. 75% of the participants implemented all or part of their individual teaching plan, in most cases for residents in family medicine. 70% of the courses participants reported changes in their clinical practice. Those who reported changes performed more precise diagnosis of alcohol problems (used screening tests and diagnostic history); used brief intervention methods to motivate for treatment patients who abused alcohol, and modified their personal attitudes towards patients with alcohol problems. The brief intervention and screening/assessment modules were indicated by the participants as most helpful both in clinical practice and in teaching activities. The results of this study suggest that the teaching program was successfully implemented and is recommended for routine use in the Polish system of teaching family physicians.

Key words: evaluation, training courses, family physicians, prevention, alcohol-related problems.

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