



Health of health professionals – ReMed: the support network for physicians Accompanying research in Switzerland

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Format & Type

Oral, Scientific

Background

Maintaining physician's health is increasingly recognised as a matter to discuss in public and research. Physician health is a critical issue, because poor physician's health can have severe impact on doctor's performance, patient safety, quality of care and may affect standards of care.

Research Question / Aim

To help doctors in crisis the support Network XY was founded in 2007. An experienced team of counsellors takes care of doctors suffering from various crises. The counsellors offer targeted support in difficult situations and are "committed to promoting health, helping physicians to function effectively, and guaranteeing patient safety, in order to guarantee the general population high-quality and safe medical care provided by healthy and contented doctors". In 2018, the program leaders initiated an ongoing external evaluation on the quality of the counselling. In addition, the evaluation takes into consideration the anonymized data from each case over the last 18 months.

Method / Procedure

In Switzerland there exists only this specific helpline for physicians. Data source is limited to data available from this program. The counsellors collected data since October 2018. They gathered semi-structured reasons for encounter as well as gender, age, professional activity, marital status and additional information (nationality, degree, workload.). Descriptive analysis is used to create profiles of doctors being engaged with the helpline.

Results

By means of descriptive analyses and presented as an oral presentation, the collected data serves as unique fundus of information on reasons for encounter as well as for various other gathered variables. First insights to the results will be available by November 2020.

Discussion

The responsible researcher plans to answer the following objectives within the accompanying study:

- Create profiles of doctors getting engaged with the helpline in relation to variables collected
- Compare the findings to find similarities, patterns and other regularities or irregularities
- Discuss the preventive implications of the findings

Conclusion

The ongoing evaluation helps to identify what variables might refer to a greater risk of health problems in doctors and where preventive implications might be possible.