Enhancing Professional Perspectives: Development of Physiotherapy Advanced Practice Models in Switzerland

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Agenda

• Background & Study Aims
• Methods
• Results: Literature Review
• Prospects
BACKGROUND & STUDY AIMS
Challenges in Swiss Health Care System

Rising demand for health care services, based on:

• Demographic development
• Increase of non-communicable diseases

Relevant factors of a Health Care Workforce to meet these demands:

• Number of health professionals
• Number of employees per full time-equivalent
• Skill-Grade-Mix of teams

Stock of Health Care Workforce

- Physicians: 32%
- Nurses: 46%
- Midwives: 42%
- Physio- & occupational therapists: 35%

conceptual Stock-Flow-Model: Rüesch et al. (2014), modified
Data from the Swiss Structure Survey (Merçay, Burla & Widmer (2016))
ZHAW Subprojects

Occupational Careers and Job Retention of Health Professionals

Data Project: Longitudinal Study
National Graduate Survey of Health Professionals from Universities of Applied Sciences

Data Project: Longitudinal Study
Professional Careers in Nursing – Longitudinal Study after Career Start

Intervention Project
• Innovative Models of Integrated Collaboration for Ambulant Care

Intervention Project
• Job Satisfaction of Midwives

Intervention Project
• Advanced Practice Models for Physiotherapy

Intervention Project
• Promotion of Interprofessional Collaboration in Practice
Potential reasons for job resignation

Results from a Swiss survey among physiotherapists (n=2852):

Considering all their efforts and achievements:

• 42 % do (rather) not rate their job promotion prospects to be adequate.

• 64 % do (rather) not rate their salary to be adequate.

Nast et al. (2017)
«Advanced Practice»: Expectations

1. Improved access to health care
2. Improved quality of health care
3. Reduction of health care costs
4. Increased attractiveness of non-medical health care professions

Delamaire & Lafortune (2010)
Advanced Practice Models for Physiotherapy

Aims:

• to enhance career perspectives
• to gain knowledge about experiences with Advanced Practice:
  ➢ in Switzerland and abroad
  ➢ in Physiotherapy and other health professions
• to summarize Advanced Physiotherapy Practice (APP) elements in today’s practice in Switzerland
• to learn about key stakeholders’ ideas and visions related to APP
• to develop advanced practice models for Switzerland
METHODS
Mixed-methods design

• **Literature review**: experiences with Advanced Practice

• **Questionnaire Survey**: APP-elements in today’s practice in Switzerland

• **Qualitative Interviews**: key stakeholders’ ideas and visions related to APP

• **Expert Workshop**: to synthesize gained knowledge and develop advanced practice models for Switzerland
Literature Review

Data bases: PubMed, Web of Science

Inclusion criteria:

• Keywords for:
  ➢ Advanced Practice AND
  ➢ Physiotherapy OR other health professions / health care

• Publications from 1996 to 2017

• Documents:
  ➢ Reviews for nursing studies
  ➢ reviews and research articles for other health professions
RESULTS: LITERATURE REVIEW
150 Studies included

• professions

- Occupational therapy: 1%
- Midwifery: 3%
- Physiotherapy: 43%
- Nursing: 43%
- More than one profession: 10%
- Other/more than one profession: 10%

• countries

- USA: 31%
- Canada: 15%
- Australia: 14%
- UK: 13%
- Ireland: 12%
- Other/more than one: 15%
Definition of Advanced Practice

«Advanced Practice is a level of practice on a continuum in which practitioners develop their **professional, knowledge, skills and behaviours to a high level**, at which they are capable of safe and effective practice in more complex situations and with greater autonomy, responsibility and clinical accountability.»

*Advanced Practice*

*Extended Scope*

A = Tasks profession A  
B = Tasks profession B  
C = Tasks profession C

Council for healthcare regulatory excellence (2009); Künzli, Jäggi & Dutoit (2013)
Advanced Practice Nurses (APN)

Role examples

- Clinical Nurse Specialist
- Nurse Practitioner
- Certified registered nurse anaesthesist
- Certified Nurse Midwife

Delamaire & Lafortune (2010); Aaron & Scheinberg-Andrews (2016); Expertengruppe Schweizerischer Verein für Pflegewissenschaft (2012)
Experiences with APN

• Improved access to health care
• High quality of care in management of chronic diseases and monitoring post rehabilitation
• Tendency towards elaborated counselling
• High patient satisfaction in most cases

• Cost evaluations:
  ➢ Substitution of physician services: cost reduction or neutrality
  ➢ Supplementary services: increase in costs

Advanced Practice Physiotherapists (APP)

Advanced Practitioner in

• Role enhancement / advanced scope of practice
• Role substitution / extended scope, extended roles

Roles:

• autonomous primary contact practitioner
• provider of post-surgery-monitoring
• treatment coordinator
• practitioner with extended therapeutic interventions (e.g., injections, surgeries)
• Responsible persons for quality management

McPherson et al. 2006; Saxon et al. 2014; Stanhope et al. 2012 und 2012b
Experiences with APP

Settings:

Emergency departments, orthopaedic and rheumatology clinics

Evaluations:

• Waiting time reduction for care
• Reduction of treatment costs
• Reduced workload in specialists
• Improvement of patient satisfaction

Chang et al., 2017; Crane & Delaney, 2014; Kinsella et al., 2018; Large et al., 2014; Schulz et al., 2016; Stanhope et al., 2012a+b
Influencing factors: Barriers and Facilitators for Advanced Practice

1. Physicians’ attitudes towards advanced practice
2. Compensation of health care services: fee for item vs. lump compensation
3. Legal constraint: professionalism laws, central or local regulation
4. Education system: capacity to educate Advanced Practitioners

Delamaire & Lafortune (2010)
PROSPECTS
Conclusion

• Literature search: Basis for the development of:
  ➢ A conjoint definition of advanced practice in Switzerland
  ➢ A questionnaire on current APP-elements in Switzerland
  ➢ Advanced practice models in Switzerland

• Expected results
  ➢ Potential scenarios/models for the implementation of advanced practice
  ➢ Basis for future pilot projects
  ➢ Basis for further development of curricula


Crane J, Delany C. Physiotherapists in emergency departments: responsibilities, accountability and education. Physiotherapy. 2013;99:95–100. doi: 10.1016/j.physio.2012.05.003


