## Quality Indicators and the relevance of Indicators in General Practice: How to conceive and execute?

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EQuiP



## Outline



- Quality indicators, introduction
- External use
- Internal use
- Example: Primary health care in Sweden





## Quality indicator



An indicator, NOT a measure of quality

A simplified, measurable dimension of a more complex phenomenon. Not reality - A starting point for discussions about reality.









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# Quality indicators

### **External use**

- Accountability
  - Control, Judgement, Ranking
- Distribution of resources
  - Planning health care

### Internal use

- Quality Improvement
- Distribution of resources

COLLÈGE

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• at practice level

<b>Top down</b> • By health care aut		
<ul><li>Bottom up</li><li>By professionals</li></ul>	Show primary care's results and needs	Swedish project
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# **Pay-for-performance (P4P)** - Better than present system?

- Internal: Find areas for improvement, i.e. weaknesses in performance External: Hide weaknesses - ↓ local needs for improvement
- Health professionals' motivation from
  - intrinsic (wanting to do a good job) to
  - extrinsic (getting rewarded)
- Focus only on goals that are payed
  - Other goals neglected
  - Worse after payment ended
- Documentation gathering data for P4P indicators → Consultations ↓ patient's agenda and purpose
- Results from better documentation > better outcomes for patients
- Yuan et.al: Cochrane review, 2017
  - Slight improvement in use of tests or treatments
  - Little or no improvement in health outcomes

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## EQuiP: Position Paper on Quailty Indicators





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SOUS L'EGIDE DU

## Internal use – Indicators by professionals

- Quality improvement
  - What do we need to improve?
  - How can it be measured?
- Shared /public indicators
  - Compare with each other
  - Follow/monitor
  - Show stakeholders what we do





## Constructing indicators - by professionals

Topic? Relevant? Important? Validity: High score = better care? (Evidence? Consensus?) In control of the GP-practice? Necessary to document?

#### **Balancing measurements**

Other aspects? Other patients? Health professionals?





#### **Primary Care Quality Sweden**

- Purpose: Quality Improvement
- Initiated by Swedish College of General Practice 1990, Financed from 2012
  - Manual  $\rightarrow \rightarrow$  Digital

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#### **Primary Care Quality Sweden**

- Purpose: Quality Improvement
- Initiated by Swedish College of General Practice 1990, Financed from 2012
  - Manual  $\rightarrow \rightarrow$  Digital
- Indicators:
  - Around 100 national primary care indicators
  - Evidence based knowledge
  - Constructed and tested by professionals in primary care
  - Multi-professional (Professional organizations)
- Practice level: Individual patients
- Aggregated data from all Sweden for bench-marking

- Primary care specific Indicators Multimorbidity Continuity Priority setting Lifestyle habits Drug treatment
  - Patient reported indicators

Diagnosis specific Indicators Cardiovascular disease Diabetes Musculoskelettal disease Psychiatric disease Asthma/COPD Osteoarthritis Infections



## Example of Indicator in "Primary Care Quality Sweden" Overdiagnosis: "Lagom" Prevalence



LAGOM

Not too little,

## Overtreatment: "Lagom" medication!

#### Infections: treatment with antibiotics



## Example of Indicator in "Primary Care Quality Sweden": Care according to needs/Equity: Finding patients in need

Avoid "loosing" patients – Check-ups for COPD patients, with medication



## Joy at work

- Orderliness everybody works as agreed on
- Appointed persons responsible for follow-up and development of different areas of activity
- Scheduled time allocated to discuss how we actually handle our patients

#### In Search of Joy in Practice: A Report of 23 High-Functioning Primary Care Practices

Christine A. Sinsky, MD<sup>1</sup> Rachel Willard-Grace, MPH2 Andrew M. Schutzbark, MD<sup>2,4</sup> Thomas A. Sinsky, MD<sup>4</sup> Daxid Margolius, MD<sup>2</sup> Thomas Bodenkrimer, MD<sup>2</sup> Medical Associates Clinic and Health Plans, Dubuque, lows \*Center for Excellence in Primary Care, University of California, San Prancisco, California \*Bath Israel Desconess Medical Center Bostoin, Massachusetts <sup>4</sup>lora Health, Cambridge, Massachusetts

MORE ONLINE

ABSTRACT We highlight primary care innovations gathered from high-functioning primary care practices, innovations we believe can facilitate joy in practice and mitigate physician burnout. To do so, we made site visits to 23 high-performing primary care practices and focused on how these practices distribute functions among the team, use technology to their advantage, improve outcomes with data, and make the job of primary care feasible and enjoyable as a life's vocation. Innovations identified include (1) proactive planned care, with previsit planning and previsit laboratory tests; (2) sharing clinical care among a team, with expanded rooming protocols, standing orders, and panel management; (3) sharing clerical tasks with collaborative documentation (scribing), nonphysician order entry, and streamlined prescription management; (4) improving communication by verbal messaging and in-box management; and (5) improving team functioning through co-location, team meetings, and work flow mapping. Our observations suggest that a shift from a physician-centric model of work distribution and responsibility to a shared-care model, with a higher level of clinical support staff per physician and frequent forums for communication, can result in high-functioning teams, improved professional satisfaction, and greater joy in practice.





## Thank you!

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Primary Care Quality Sweden - SKL https://skl.se/tjanster/englishpages/acti vities/primarycarequality.10073.html



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