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Transfer of expertise on child protection in medicine by the use of a basic e-learning training for health professionals

Anna Maier | Department of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry/Psychotherapy | July 24, 2018 | 23th World Congress of the International Association for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and allied Professions | Prague

Objectives & Background



Background

- Several new measures and legislation amendments in the field of child protection were initiated in Germany
 - Uncertainty among health professionals concerning responsibilities and duties in a case of child maltreatment
- Aim of the Project: Development of an online-course on the subject of “Child protection in the medical field”
- Aim of the Online-Course: Overview of the legal situation, legislation amendments, epidemiology and diagnostics of different kinds of child maltreatment
- Target group: medical and therapeutical professionals
- Project duration: June 2015 – August 2019
- Funded by German Ministry of Health

Structure of the course

- The course is splitted into a Theory-Area and a Practice-Area
- Both Areas are adjusted to the respective target-group by highlighting several topics
- In the Theory-Area every learning-unit has to be completed with an examination
- For getting the certificate all examinations have to be passed
- During the development of the course the participation is for free

Contents of the Theory-Area

Theory-Area				
Theoretical Basics	Forms of Maltreatment	Practical Basics I	Legal Basics	Practical Basics II
History of medical child protection	Physical child maltreatment	Notes in the anamnesis	Obligation to secrecy and the Federal Child Protection Act	Guidelines on child protection
Epidemiology of medical child protection	Physical and emotional neglect	Differential diagnosis	Civil law child protection - guiding principles and actors	Child protection networks
Risk and protection factors for child maltreatment	Sexual maltreatment	Dealing with affected children / adolescents, parents and other reference persons	Criminal Law Regulations	Procedure in a case of child maltreatment
			Role of the medical professions in court	Mental hygiene
			Questions and problems under professional law	

Contents of the Practice-Area

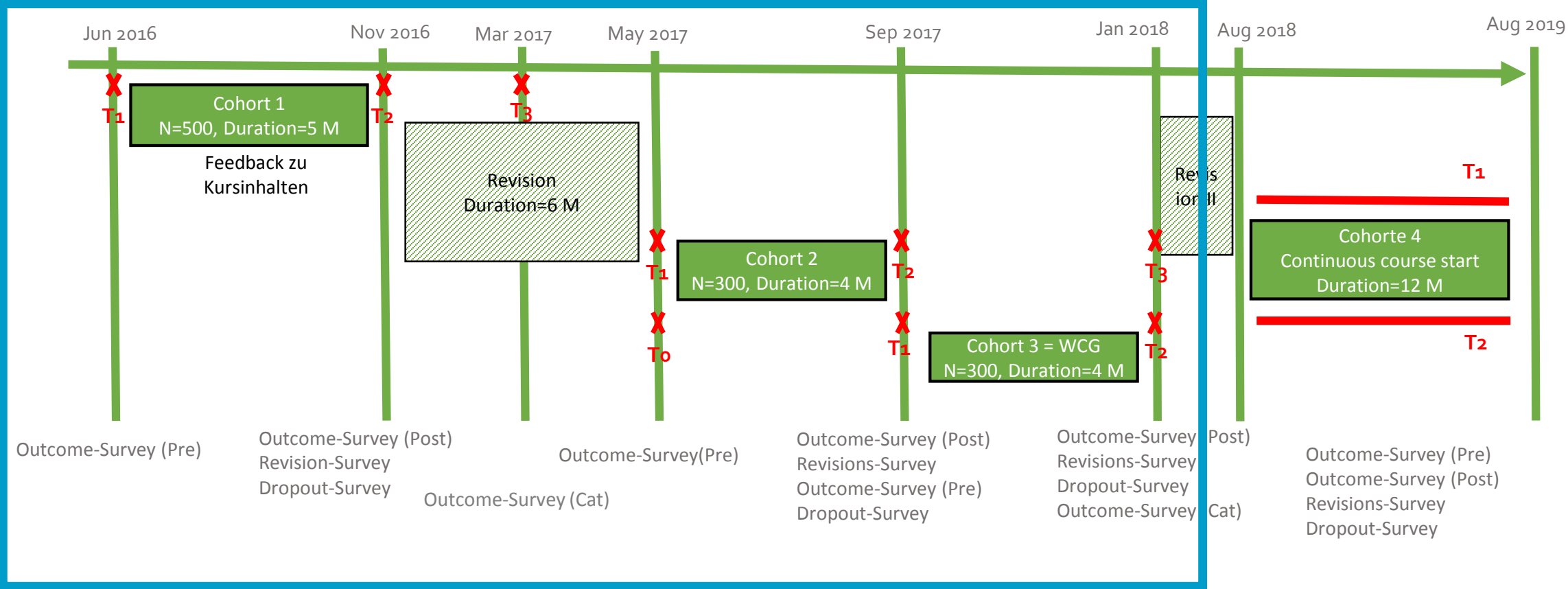
Practice-Area

Case-Studies				Filmclips of Model-Conversations	Exercises as to the topics
Somatic Focus	Psychological Focus	Nursing Focus	Casuistics		
<i>Mia Bäumle</i>	<i>Amelia Burgmann</i>	<i>Lara Daniels</i>	<i>Pediatrician I</i>	Clip 1: Non-cooperative caregiver in consultation hour	Epidemiology
<i>Franziska Härtle</i>	<i>Yannick Schütze</i>	<i>Tobias Neuhaus</i>	<i>Pediatrician II</i>		Anamnesis
<i>Max Melbeck</i>			Internist	Clip 2: Non-cooperative caregiver at child psychologist	Neglect
<i>Maria Mergens</i>			<i>Gynaecologist</i>		German law for child protection
<i>Finn Richter</i>			Dentist	Clip 3: Non-cooperative caregiver in children's hospital	Collaborations in child protection
<i>Nina Wagner</i>					

Methods



Accompanying research



WCG=Waiting Control Group

T0=Baseline

T1=Survey at the beginning of the course

T2=Survey at the end of the course

T3=Catamnesis-Survey C1 und C2 (after 4 Months)

T_D=Evaluation of dissemination materials

The survey

- Professional background
- Motivation to learn
- Opinion on the further education system in the field of child protection in medicine
- Level, depth and quality of the course contents
- Dissemination of course contents
- Estimation of the effectiveness of the course with regard to
 - Knowledge
 - Competence to act
 - Emotional competence
- Overall user satisfaction and user-friendliness
- Other remarks and outstanding points
- Reasons for cancelling the course (if applicable)

Results



The Sample

	n	%
Participants	1.036	100
Graduates	701	68 % of 1036
Female	590	84 % of 701
	Average	Standard Deviation
Age	43	10.11
Professional experience	13	10.06

Professional Group	n	%
Physicians	280	40
Psychotherapists (psychological / medical)	150	21
Care-givers	91	13
Non-approved therapists	144	21
Others	36	5
Total	701	100

Motivation

- 81% (n=565) were quite or very motivated to work on the course before processing
- 66% (n=463) estimated their own professional experience in child protection before the course as rather to very low
- For 48% (n=338) the online course is the only way to learn about child protection in medicine
- 86% (n=604) consider child protection training levels among health professionals as insufficient

Transfer and evaluation of the course and the learning content

- Approval of statements based on the 6-step Likert scale with (1 = "don't agree at all" 6 = "completely agree")

	Average	Standard Deviation
Application of the contents	4.01	1.411
Use of materials in everyday professional life	4.41	1.278
Modification of the procedure	4.23	1.231
Reduction of fears / reservations	4.52	1.049
Relevance of learning material for job	5.06	1.071
E-Learning suitable for this further education	5.21	0.950
Temporal expenditure was worthwhile	5.49	0.860
Course recommendation to colleagues	5.59	0.749

Increasing knowledge and competence

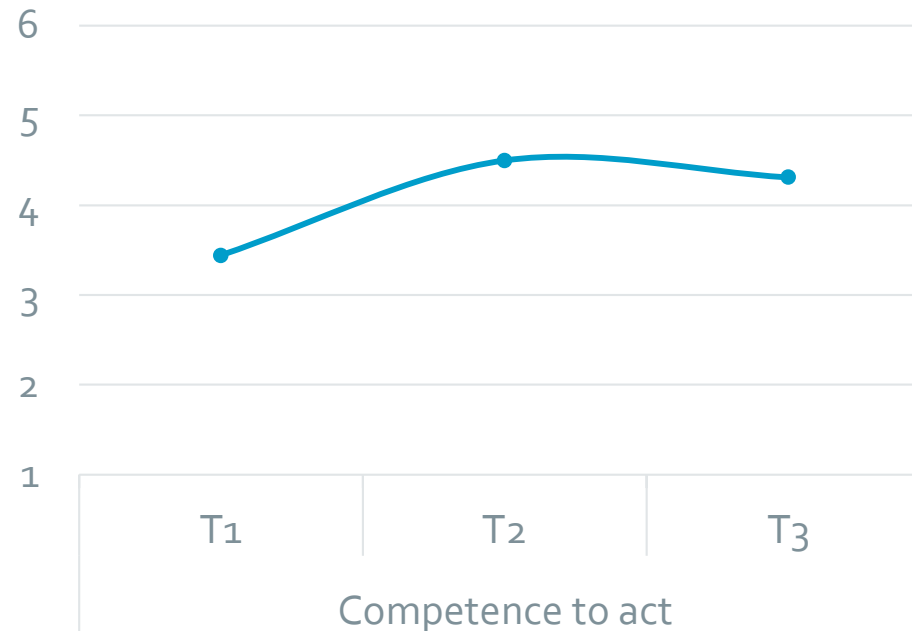
- Significant increase in knowledge, competence to act, emotional competence and self-efficacy through processing the course (t-test for related samples):

Item	Average		Standard Deviation		Cohen's effect strength (d)	Significance (p)
	T1	T2	T1	T2		
Knowledge [Min:8; Max:48]	26.44	36.12	7	5.23	1.38	0.000
Competence to act [Min:1; Max:6]	3.35	4.49	0.93	0.73	1.25	0.000
Emotional Competence [Min:6, Max:36]	27.52	28.38	4.24	4.06	0.2	0.000
Self Efficacy [Min:10; Max:40]	24.98	28.57	5.33	4.61	0.76	0.000

Growth of knowledge and competence after 4 months (n=264)

(Single-factor variance analysis with measurement repetition)

Item	Average			Standard Deviation			η_p^2	Cohen's effect strength (d)	Significance (p)
	T1	T2	T3	T1	T2	T3			
Knowledge [Min:8; Max:48]	27.76	36.03	35.44	6.9	5.3	5.2	0.563	1.14	0.000
Competence to act [Min:1; Max:6]	3.44	4.50	4.31	0.95	0.75	0.73	0.489	0.98	0.000



Conclusion



Concluison

- Knowledge and competence levels in the field of child protection in medicine among health professionals are judged as poor --> There is a high overall need for further training.
- Depth and level of learning content are predominantly perceived as appropriate
- The course is assessed by participants as relevant for medical & therapeutic practice
- Almost three-quarters of the users were already able to use the contents in their everyday working life
- Knowledge and competence increase significantly as the course is completed
- The Online course "Child protection in medicine" is a high-quality offer for health professionals to acquire knowledge and skills in the field of child protection in medicine

Conclusion

- In order to meet the existing demand, the German Ministry of Health continues to support the project until August 2019
- New materials and contents have been developed
- From August 2018 the course is to be made available again for health professionals
- More information and the registration for the course is available at

www.grundkurs.elearning-kinderschutz.de

Thank you for
your attention!

Any Questions?

