

# Indicators for health-promotion capacity in Finnish comprehensive schools

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# National R&D project: Benchmarking of health promotion capacity in municipalities

- 2006-2009
- Indicators for health promotion capacity
- All sectors of local municipalities
  - Health, social, education, city planning
  - To make action visible
  - Strategic level, decision-making, annual plans and reports
- National & local databank

# Key concepts

- Health promotion
  - WHO, Ottawa Charter
  - Strategic leadership
- Health promotion capacity building
  - Capacity building / community capacity building
- Settings/units
  - Municipalities, health centres, hospitals, schools
- Benchmarking

# Health promotion capacity building

- Based on Capacity building / Community capacity building
- Building health promotion capacity:
  1. Infrastructure or service development
  2. Program maintenance and sustainability
  3. Problem-solving capability of organisations and communities

Ref. Hawe, P. et al. 1998; Labonte, R. & Laverack, G. 2001

## Pilot areas in 2006-2009

- Strategic leadership of municipalities
- Health centres
- Hospital districts
- Preventive services for children and adolescents
- Schools

# School pilot

## Aims:

- To develop a set of indicators aiming to measure the health promotion capacity of comprehensive schools and secondary level schools
- To develop a national benchmarking system for schools from health-promotion capacity building point of view

## School pilot

- Collaboration with The National Board of Education, several municipalities and schools
- "Health promotion capacity of school"
  - Combination of two interpretations
  - Educational vs. health (promotion)
    - Definition of domains and measures
- More than 10 working sessions needed

# Nationwide web-surveys to principals of schools

1. Upper comprehensive schools (N=1016)
  - Schools with grades 7-9 (13-16 yrs)
  - April-June 2007
  - Response rate 67%
2. Comprehensive schools with grades 1-6
3. Secondary level schools (upper secondary schools, vocational education)

# Main topics of 75 questions

- Working conditions
- Planning and evaluation of health promotion activities
- Monitoring pupils' wellbeing and health
- Participation
- School culture
- Health education as a school subject
- School lunch
- School social and health services
- Good practices in prevention and coping with mobbing
- School-level statistics on absence, accidents, disciplinary measures, and bullying and other disturbances and problem situations

# School-level Indicators for Human Resources of School Health Care

- In Finland several guidelines issued for human resources

- Number and quality of staff at health centre-level
- Indicators: number of pupils / full-time nurse/doctor
- Need assessment
- Not useable at school-level

- Teaching activity:

- Weekly working hours (WWH)
- Same principle for SHC human resources:
  - WWH /100 pupils for nurse
  - WWH /100 pupils for doctor

# National Guidelines for Human Resources

- Health centre-level:
  - **≤ 600 pupils** /one full-time school health care nurse
  - **≤ 2100 pupils** / one full-time school doctor



- Applied to school-level:
  - **6.0 WWH** / 100 pupils for nurse
  - **1.7 WWH**/ 100 pupils for doctor

# Implementation of recommendations at 534 schools

## The HR recommendations were met at school-level:

- Nurses: **56 %** of schools
- Doctors: **6 %** of schools
- Both criteria **6 %** of schools

# Conclusions

- Huge variation between schools/health centres
- Only few national recommendations for good practices
  - The definition of BM indicators is difficult
- Systematic data collection is rare
  - Even legislative measures are not monitored
  - Local information systems do not support data collection
  - Common understanding of definition of domains and measures is essential and demands more effort than expected

# Indicators

- According to the results of these surveys the proposal for indicators will be revised at the end of 2007
- Purpose to develop a permanent benchmarking databank
- Collect annual indicators of health promotion capacity of schools