Public Health Nurse involvement in a multi-stakeholder community paediatric clinic meeting UN SDGs in Ireland

Presented by: Lynn Buckley, University College Cork, Ireland
Sigma 6th Biennial European Conference June 23rd RCSI Dublin
Today's Presentation

SECTION 1: BACKGROUND
• Child development and impacts of disadvantage
• Cork city north-west
• The KidScope Clinic

SECTION 2: THE RESEARCH
• Study design
• Mapping PHN contribution and roles
• Thematic analysis findings

SECTION 3: DISCUSSION
• PHNs contributing to SDGs
• Research implications
• Specialist Early Years PHNs
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Background
“The foundations for virtually every aspect of human development – physical, intellectual and emotional – are laid in early childhood.”
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<tr>
<td>IMPACTS OF DISADVANTAGE ON DEVELOPMENT</td>
<td>Social disadvantage impacts child development often leading to an intergenerational cycle of reduced employment, higher fertility, and health inequalities [4,5]</td>
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<td>CLOSING THE HEALTH INEQUALITY GAP</td>
<td>World Health Organisation states ‘the most efficient way to close gap is to address needs of the most disadvantaged’ [7]</td>
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<td>COMMUNITY PAEDIATRIC CLINICS</td>
<td>Community paediatric clinics tackle social disadvantage by going beyond traditional medical setting. They treat &amp; monitor developmental delay, refer children to developmental services, and delivery child and family support services [3,8]</td>
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Kidscope

A multi-stakeholder community paediatric clinic

• Developed in 2011, Kidscope is the only community child development clinic to offer assessment, consultation, and onward referral in Ireland.

• Kidscope is free for all children aged 0-6, living within the HSE Sector 4 Cork city north-west catchment area, who present to local PHNs with developmental concerns.

• 3 main functions:
  • To conduct physical and developmental assessments on children aged 0 to 6 years
  • To refer children and families to the appropriate health, developmental, or social support service/s
  • To act as a training clinic for UCC medical students
Cork city north-west

CSO, 2016 [9]
32 clinics, 186 appts

149 children seen

1 visit: 118
2 visits: 22
3 visits: 8

Behavioural concerns     63
Developmental delay       54
Speech & language delay    46
? Autism Spectrum Disorder 43
Social/environmental issues 26

Network Disability Team   73
Primary Care Services     65
Family support services   71
Parenting Programme       13

Kidscope: A snapshot
Sept 21 - May 22
Public Health Nurses: Key stakeholders in Kidscope

‘NURSES AND MIDWIVES ARE A FORCE FOR HEALTH IN SOCIETY'S EFFORTS TO TACKLE THE PUBLIC HEALTH CHALLENGES OF OUR TIME’

WHO, 2000 [10]
SECTION 2: THE RESEARCH

How have Public Health Nurses been involved in a multi-stakeholder community paediatric clinic meeting SDGs in Ireland?
STUDY DESIGN

Case study as part of a qualitative stakeholder analysis and mapping exercise

OBJECTIVES

To document and map PHN roles and involvement in KidScope.
To understand PHN contribution and impact within Kidscope.
To capture how PHNs contribute to SDGs in north-west Cork city.

RESEARCH QUESTION

How have Public Health Nurses been involved in a multi-stakeholder community paediatric clinic meeting SDGs in Ireland?

GUIDING FRAMEWORK

Schmeer (1999) guidelines incorporated [12]

DATA COLLECTION

Primary data: snowball sampling, 4 scoping interviews, 1 focus group (n=6 participants), 1:1 interviews (n=15).
Secondary data: annual reports, work plans, logic models from partner agencies, and Kidscope review-meeting minutes.

DATA ANALYSIS

Stakeholder mapping power matrix
NVivo used to collate and assist thematic analysis.
MAPPING PHN CONTRIBUTION & ROLES IN KIDSCOPE

DEVELOPMENT
Key stakeholders involved in Kidscope clinic development and implementation

RESOURCING
Providing developmental questionnaires, child assessment instruments and scales. Annual calibration of clinic instruments.

CHILD/FAMILY CARE PLAN
Role in multi-disciplinary meeting developing care plan for child and family

FOLLOW UP SUPPORT
Link with families between clinic visits to ensure adherence to plan and to offer advice and support until next visit

COORDINATION
Main referrers into Kidscope. Responsible for organising clinic appointments and reviews

DELIVERY
Designated PHN assisting medical team within clinic using Infant Mental Health approach with children and families

EDUCATION
PHN delivers Infant Mental Health briefing to medical students. PHNs educated in paediatric medical and developmental concepts.

CLINIC REVIEW & SUSTAINABILITY
Key stakeholders at annual review meetings involved in implementation process decision-making and plans for clinic sustainability
Thematic analysis

**KIDSCOPE DEVELOPMENT**

"The PHNs were integral at the development phase. It was a very novel idea, the PHN department was very innovative, they were core stakeholders around the table during those initial discussions"

Community Health Worker, 1:1 Interview, Mar-22

**REFERRING AGENCY**

"Through routine developmental checks, we identify children with developmental concerns and organise appointments at Kidscope"

ADPHN, 1:1 Interview, Feb-22

**IN-CLINIC SUPPORT**

"As a partner agency, Let’s Grow Together have a designated PHN in Kidscope. The PHN provides care and support to families in clinic, building trusting relationships and linking them in with local family support services"

Service Manager, Focus Group 1, Feb-22

**AFTER-CLINIC MEETINGS**

".. the value of linking with PHNs who have direct access to families. This provides a more in-depth picture of the families’ social circumstances, helping to inform our decision about the influencing factors on children’s development"

Paediatrician, 1:1 Interview, Mar 2022

**CHILD & FAMILY SUPPORT**

"Knowing PHNs have that link to families between appointments facilitates important follow-up care. PHNs ensure families are on track with health care plans developed in clinic, i.e. sleep hygiene practices"

Paediatrician 1:1 Interview, Apr-22

**PARTNERSHIP WORKING**

"A huge strength of community working, we’re all trying to avoid silo-based working. It’s often overwhelming for families; they may not be ready to accept a diagnosis or to hear the care plan. We all work together with that family between appointments on that journey"

PHN, Focus Group 1, Feb-22
Discussion
PHNs meeting SDGs through Kidscope

**SDG 3**
Ensuring healthy lives & promoting well-being.
PHNs successfully engage & support vulnerable children & families. Detection, monitoring, treating child developmental delay.

**SDG 1 & SDG 10**
Through these activities PHNs contribute to reducing inequalities and ameliorating the effects of poverty.

**SDG 8**
Evidence underscores long-term positive impacts of prevention and early intervention on economic growth and cost savings.

**SDG 17**
Through Kidscope, PHNs facilitate working relationships in the community, building partnerships to achieve goals.
Implications

Repeated stakeholder analyses will offer clearer insights to support policy change than a single analysis representing experience at only one time.

**Slaintecare**
- Integrated manner, as close to the person's home as possible

**2021 Progressing Disability Services**
- Access to services is equitable
- Children are seen nearest their home
- No child is left without timely access to an appropriate service

Shift from the current ‘cradle to grave’ model of working towards a Specialist Early Years PHN who can help to improve outcomes for vulnerable children and their families.
Thank you!

UPDATES
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https://letsgrowtogether.ie/research-and-evaluation/

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ADDITIONAL READING

