

The development of IN SUM: A database of systematic reviews on effects of child mental health and welfare interventions

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Background: Children and youth with mental health issues is a vulnerable group in demand of evidence-based treatments. Summarized evidence on effects of treatments for this patient group is not readily available to patients and practitioners.

Objectives: To describe the development of a database of systematic reviews on effects of child mental health and welfare interventions.

Methods: We searched the Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews, Campbell Library, DARE (Database of Abstracts of Reviews of Effects), PsycINFO, Medline, Embase, Evidence Based Mental Health and Web of Science.

We identified all relevant systematic reviews concerning children (<18 years) published from 2000 until today, investigating the effect of any intervention concerning child mental health or child welfare.

IN SUM is continuously updated every month. All identified titles/abstracts are screened independently by two reviewers following predetermined inclusion criteria (DARE-criteria). Following inclusion, references are coded and published. All systematic reviews published in the database is quality appraised by the AMSTAR-checklist.

The database has gone through extensive user-testing including members of the target audience. Following this feedback a new version of the database is planned to be launched in 2019.

Results: The database currently includes 1 135 systematic reviews. Review abstracts made available through IN SUM is accessible for all, free of charge.

In the new version of the database you will be able to search for relevant reviews using a complex filtering system using a set of categories including age group, topic and type of intervention.

Conclusions: We believe that by providing easy access to relevant and quality appraised systematic reviews, IN SUM has the potential of becoming a valuable source for practitioners and researchers in our field.

Patient or healthcare consumer involvement: IN SUM is developed with the objective to provide the public and practitioners with reliable summarized evidence of prevention and treatment of mental illness in children and youth. This will enable shared decision making and informed treatment choices.