

CEPHOS-LINK in a nutshell:

Despite psychiatric services having undergone profound changes over the last decades, psychiatric hospital admission and re-admission rates are still high in most countries, and it is little understood why.

Since repeated hospital admissions constitute significant interruptions in patients' lives on many levels, unplanned readmissions are not regarded as an indicator of efficiency and good quality of psychiatric care.

CEPHOS-LINK aims to compare different types of health service interventions in terms of differences in rehospitalisation outcomes in adult patients who have been discharged with a psychiatric diagnosis from hospital.

Ultimately CEPHOS-LINK will improve the knowledge base regarding rehospitalisation and support decision makers in the field of mental health through recommendations, guidelines and online decision support tools. This will be of special interest to a variety of stakeholders from Governments and service planners to mental health NGO's.

Ready Steady Go!

We are delighted to confirm that as of April 2014, Comparative Effectiveness Research on Psychiatric Hospitalisation by Record Linkage of Large Administrative Data Sets (CEPHOS-LINK) has begun its three-year research project!

Strength in numbers

CEPHOS-LINK will make use of anonymous record linkage methods in large administrative healthcare databases from six European countries. These countries were chosen due to their very different health care systems and different models of organising mental health care. CEPHOS-LINK will compare the impact of four different service use settings of psychiatric care on rehospitalisation rates by using record linkage methodology with health service utilization records in large routine databases, thereby using data relating to daily practice.

Further information

Please visit our website where you will find a detailed description of the project, as well as individual contact details. You will also find up-to-date developments as the project progresses.

www.cephos-link.org

Seven European partners

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CEPHOS-LINK Deliverables

CEPHOS-LINK has an ambitious set of deliverables throughout its three-year time frame 2014-2017. Updates throughout each phase will be reported on the project website and through regular newsletters.

Deliverable by October 2015	Description
Project website	Fully operational and regularly updated project website.
Ethics approval	Report on ethical approvals, by competent, legal local/national Ethics Boards.
Study protocols for local record linkage studies and pooled data analyses	Study protocols for six local record linkage studies, and the joint analysis of pooled data considering issues of data quality, data protection/privacy issues, and acquisition of local data.
Report on post-discharge variables	Report on systematic literature reviews on post-discharge variables and on the effect of continuity of care on rehospitalisation as well as available post-discharge variables in country databases.
Report on system variables	Report on the systematic literature review on health and social system variables and on the availability and selection of such variables for inclusion in local studies and in pooled data analyses.
Report on pre-discharge variables	Report on the systematic literature review on pre-discharge variables used in continuity of care and hospital readmission studies.
Report on co-morbidity variables	Report on the systematic literature review on co-morbidity variables used in continuity of care and hospital readmission studies.
Methods report	Report on methods of data analysis and modelling based on record-linkage and an elaborated set of traditional and innovative methods for data analysis.
Deliverable by April 2017	Description
Final scientific report	A final scientific report will be published and distributed in national and international specialised publications.
Web-based decision support tool	Web-based decision support tool based on empirical data.
Information packages	Information packages with products targeted to policy makers, the general public, and mental health service users.

Key Stakeholders

By preparing recommendations, guidelines and decision support tools CEPHOS-LINK will assist decision makers and other stakeholders to benefit from informed decisions.

Results from CEPHOS-LINK will be especially useful regarding decisions around the improvement of mental health systems and health service interventions.

Guidance from CEPHOS-LINK on how to reduce hospital readmission rates by organising seamless continuity of care using a patient centred approach, rather than a traditional institution centred approach enables the development of modern psychiatric services.

