Knowledge transfer from Belgian government to medical doctors

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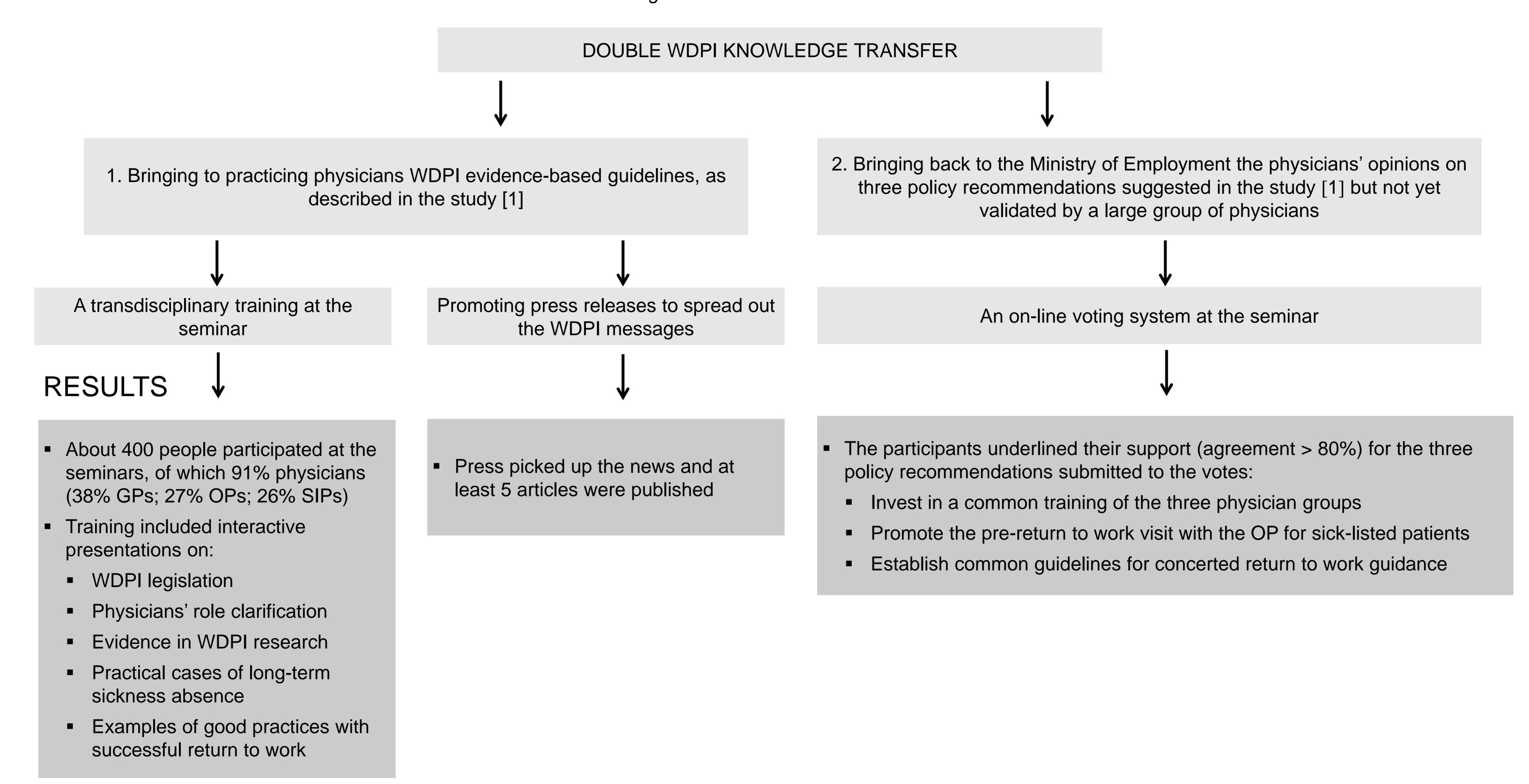
INTRODUCTION

- In Belgium, general practitioners (GPs), occupational physicians (OPs) and social insurance physicians (SIPs) have complementary tasks on work disability prevention and integration (WDPI). However, there is a lack of inter-physician collaboration in WDPI.
- In 2009-2011, the Belgian Ministry of Employment commissioned a study to identify GP-OP-SIP collaboration channels, in order to prevent unnecessary long-term work disability [1]. One of the six policy recommendations issued by this study, was to stimulate inter-physician collaboration by setting up common seminars for GPs, OPs, and SIPs.
- This poster illustrates how this recommendation was to stimulate inter-physician collaboration by common seminars can be put into practice.



METHODS

- Preparation of the seminars
 - The scientific associations of GPs, OPs, and SIPs were included in the organisation of the seminars.
 - To respect the bilingual character of Belgium, one French-spoken and one Flemish-spoken seminar were organized in 2012.
 - The Ministry of Employment and the Sickness and Invalidity Insurance provided financial and practical support for the seminars.
- The aim of the seminars was to achieve a double WDPI knowledge transfer



CONCLUSION

A double WDPI knowledge transfer was successfully put into practice in Belgium. Let's not stop there!

[1] Ph Mairiaux, N Schippers, M Vanmeerbeek, Ph Denoël, P Donceel, C Tiedtke, K Mortelmans. (2011) Improving the collaboration between general practitioners, insurance physicians and occupational physicians to prevent long-term and work-related sickness absences. Federal Government, Brussels, Belgium.

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