

The dynamics of a network of practitioners and researchers for supporting the work of teams promoting health in schools

by

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In the context of the systems and programmes relating to health promotion and preventative medicine planned by the Communauté Française de Belgique, university teams and practitioners have come together to create and distribute tools and practices regarding public health priorities and/or legal requirements for school health workers. This presentation aims to highlight the dynamics of this network, which links three categories of actors and the synergies which develop between their challenges and skills.

The three categories of actors are as follows:

- SCPS APES-ULg researchers (health promotion) and PROVAC (long-term vaccination promotion programme)
- HPS (health promotion in schools) professionals involved in temporary networks producing tools and materials and to support awareness raising days. Some of these professionals form a nucleus of specialist actors; they thus constitute a permanent informal network, fed and reactivated by temporary networks.
- All HPS professionals are regularly invited to awareness-raising days and information updates on specific themes.

The synergies between the skills and strategic positioning of these actors will be discussed,

- by linking the motivations and profiles of participants in these temporary networks to the way in which they can use new practices and how new recommendations can be integrated into practice (training, presentations and team-leading, establishing legal and administrative frameworks in terms of new public health requirements, lobbying at the political and administrative levels...)
- by highlighting the role of the research team at these different levels (definition of a frame of reference, proposition of content and working methods, formalisation of practitioner contributions, logistical and organisational support)

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