

Results:

The tools that were developed: 1. Nine district types with prominent characteristics and fourteen themes for prevention (ranging from loneliness to obesity); 2. Data guide containing a set of indicators to assess a district health profile; 3. Prevention guide containing a mix of evidence based interventions for the fourteen themes. The tools are presented in a toolkit to emphasize the coherence between them. Especially the link between data and intervention is considered to be innovative.

Lessons:

The three tools support integrated prevention in a practical way. Integrality in both district health profiles as well as in district plans could also serve as an example for other countries.

Toolkit prevention in the district: practical tools for an integrated approach

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Issue:

Not only people differ in health, but so do districts of municipalities. For example, a city center shows different health issues than a village. This is why the Dutch National Institute for Public Health and the Environment developed a toolkit based on nine different types of district. Because of the tendency to decentralization, an integrated approach at the local level is also an important issue in other countries.

Description of the problem:

In the Netherlands, an integrated health promoting approach has been implemented in most municipalities. However, conveying knowledge to local practice is a challenge. Available knowledge often focusses on limited aspects of prevention (for example only on health) or just on one step in the process.

Goals of the toolkit are to inspire and to support municipalities with the implementation of an integrated prevention approach by providing tailored and practical information. During April 2016 - February 2018 we determined the best way to accomplish a better connection between the available knowledge and local needs. Based on data-analysis, expert consultation and working sessions with inhabitants, professionals and local policy makers we developed three tools.