



Forensic Psychiatry - in your face!

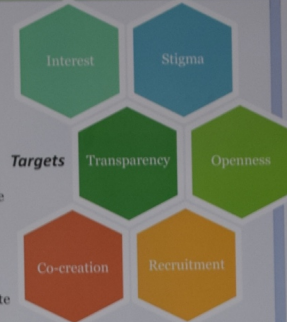
Promoting transparency and co-creation through social media



The Virtual World and Mental Health 2017

Rationale

Ignorance about forensic psychiatry fosters prejudice, stigmatization, and a diminished interest in the field. Recruitment and mental health promotion suffers accordingly. An open Facebook profile could provide insight into the field hence reducing ignorance, stigma and attract professionals. With patient participation, the project could contribute to co-creation.



Process

Sources of scepticism

- Patients
- Partners
- Society

Start Up

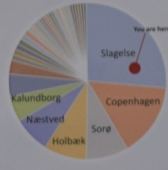
- Legal advice
- Organizing responsibility
- Content

Experience

- Dialogue
- Patient support
- Analysis

Scepticism about the project centred around the fear of negative feedback, and concerns for both staff and patients. First, we assessed our strategies to handle negative feedback. Secondly, based on a synopsis presented to the head of department, we took legal advice from the department of communication. Third, we produced some test content that gradually turned into the final draft which was approved by relevant decision-makers in the organization. A key focal point was to balance between transparency and the patients' need for discretion.

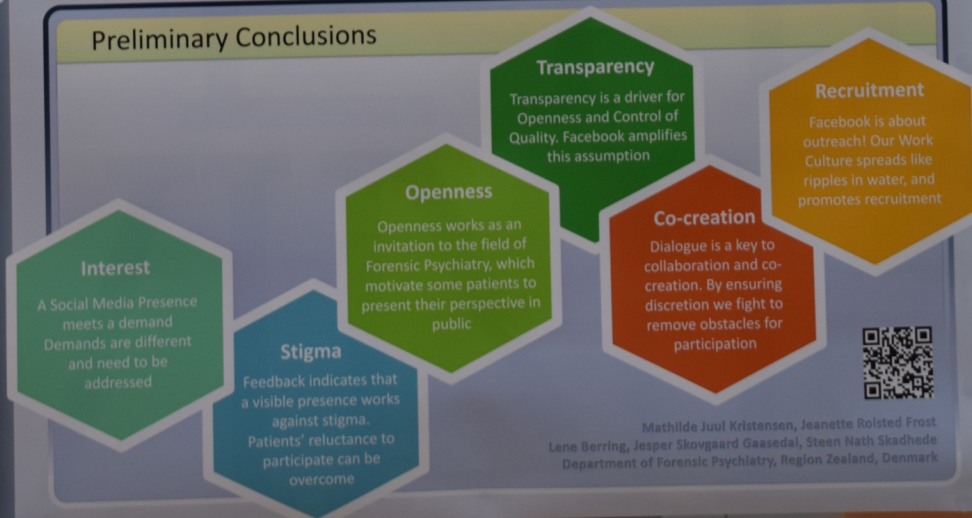
Design & results



Through photos and videos of the facilities, posts about vacancies, arrangements, activities and practical information, we aim towards a high degree of transparency, a professional dialogue promoting a realistic image of Forensic Psychiatry, hence working against stigma.

Page visits are increasing, mainly from the local community and from business- and private agents related to the department. The data also reveals poor patient participation. Through dialogue we have found that patients' engagement depends on a possibility to maintain anonymity. This has called for a 'verified user account' - which allows patients to participate without compromising discretion and the overall concept of transparency. Future scepticism is expected, and must be addressed.

Preliminary Conclusions



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