

Intersectoral working in schools between education staff and primary healthcare professionals



Case study description

Title of the initiative / case study	ARGOS - COMMUNITY / EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM Universal and environmental prevention model for consumption of alcohol, tobacco and cannabis in schools.
Country / Territory	SPAIN / AUTONOMOUS COMMUNITY OF THE REGION OF MURCIA
Summary of the intersectoral initiative	<p>Develops the prevention of addictions in the educational field, within the Regional Plan on Addictions of the Autonomous Community of the Region of Murcia (in the southeast of Spain), complying with current legislation. The Counseling of Health is the promoter of the public health project, financed by the Spanish Ministry of Health. The community implementation strategy proposes the participation of health workers, teachers and municipal technicians. Different training actions have been carried out to promote and coordinate the Program for the aforementioned professionals.</p> <p>The contents of 8 didactic units work on the risk factors detected in the adolescent population, its methodology is based on the main characteristics of effective programs in the educational field; the Theory of Reasoned Action of Fishbein and Azjen, shows the relevance of the consequences that each person anticipates from their behavior, on which, to a large extent, they base their normative beliefs, on which it is influenced.</p> <p>The municipalities, at the beginning of each school year, contact educational and health centers in their municipality proposing the application of the respective manuals for 1st, 2nd and 3rd ESO, and at the end they collect the number of participants, taking into account that the health professionals apply one didactic unit per course.</p> <p>In 1st and 2nd, the students answer the initial questionnaire on which health professionals, as health referents, demystify erroneous ideas (risk perception). Teachers work the denormalization of consumption, peer group pressure..., with a gender perspective. In the 3rd year, two reinforcement didactic units are applied.</p>
Focus of the initiative	Other (please tell us) UNIVERSAL ADDICTION PREVENTION IN THE SCHOOL FIELD WITH COMMUNITY INTERVENTION.
Goal and objectives	GOAL: the most reasonable strategy for prevention in minors

Overall goals and specific objectives.	<p>is to delay the start of alcohol consumption. Early use harms psychosocial and neurocognitive development, increases the vulnerability of adolescents to later use, school failure, risky sexual behaviors and mental health problems. From there, it intervenes in 1st, 2nd and 3rd years of Compulsory Secondary Education (ESO).</p> <p>OBJECTIVES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increase knowledge about the consequences of alcohol, cigarettes and cannabis consumption in adolescence and the specific effects on women. - Increase the perception of risk. - Improve resistance to peer group pressure towards drug use. - Progressively involve the recipients at the regional level.
School setting	12-14 years
- Age group of students covered (0-18)	
- Number of students in the school	22.000
- Public (<i>no fees</i>) or Private (<i>pay fees</i>)?	Public and Private
- Location	Urban, Suburban and Rural
- Socioeconomic environment	All types
Description of the initiative	
- What was the driver to start the initiative? <i>Was it the pandemic, or something else?</i>	<p>In 2010, in response to the alarming rates of adolescent consumption of alcohol and other drugs and with funding from the national and regional governments, from the Health Counseling, a group met of technicians who made the decision to apply global public policies for the prevention of addictions with regional coverage, in which a double implication was established: that of those responsible for different administrations (Ministry of Health, Murcia Health Service, Ministry of Education, Entities Local) and that of their professionals (natural mediators in the health, educational and community fields), to start a new collaborative model, promoted from the health bases to prevent the use of alcohol and other drugs. ARGOS provides primary care health workers with basic training on effective interventions in addictions (counseling, motivational interview ...) and proposes that they collaborate by training adolescents. However, the activity that consisted of a visit to the health center of each class stopped being carried out due to the pandemic and involved the adaptation of manuals and audiovisual resources, achieving the collaboration of the</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - From when to when did the initiative take place? <i>Does it continue now?</i> - Did it get funding? How was it funded? - What type of activities took place <i>e.g. health professionals seeing students or staff for consultations, health professionals training education staff, teachers training health professionals?</i> 	<p>school nurse in the implementation.</p> <p>It is piloted in 2012 in 1st ESO. In 2017, 2nd ESO is included and in 2022 it was reinforced with 3rd ESO. The ARGOS Program is still active today.</p> <p>It is co-financed annually by the Spanish Ministry of Health (financial contribution charged to the <i>Fund for assets confiscated for illicit drug trafficking and other related crimes - concept 458 - for the development in terms of addictions programs</i>) and the Health Counseling of the Autonomous Community of the Region of Murcia.</p> <p>Health professionals collaborate in direct training with students. Initially, of the three didactic units of the 1st course and the three of the 2nd of Compulsory Secondary Education (6 units in total), the second was applied by a doctor or nurse at the health center, to which each class from the center traveled educational, and the other two units were applied by the tutors in class. With the pandemic, students no longer visit the health center and the manuals and materials have been adapted so that the school nurse can apply this unit in class. The didactic unit that the health professionals impart to the students of each class, is aimed at clarifying the misconceptions of the students about the risks and effects of alcohol, tobacco and cannabis. The tutor of each class teaches the other didactic units for the denormalization of consumption and skills to improve resistance to group pressure.</p>
<p>Partners</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Who are the partners involved? - Who are the education professionals involved in the initiative? 	<p>Work is being done to involve different sectors to guarantee a good development of the Program. Synergy between regional administrations: Promoting Counseling of Health, Murcian Health Service (health centers), Counseling of Education (educational centers) and Local Entities (the Municipal Plans for the Prevention of Addictions promote the application in the educational centers, coordinate the health workers, carry out the follow-up and report annually to the Ministry of Health for the evaluation of the process). Hierarchically, they support the Program and authorize the participation of their centers. At the same time, functions are distributed horizontally and, with the support of natural mediators (health workers, teachers and local technicians), the program is brought to teenagers and their families.</p> <p>Tutors apply the corresponding didactic units. Counselor coordinates in each educational center. Those responsible for</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Who are the health professionals involved in the initiative? - Where are the health professionals located? (e.g. In the school, in the community?) - At what stage/s did intersectoral work happen (eg conceptualization, co-design, implementation or evaluation)? 	<p>the Ministry of Education facilitate the participation.</p> <p>Originally, doctors and nurses from health centers participated. Due to the pandemic, the school nurse travels to each educational. Also, the Managements of the Murcian Health Service have included the ARGOS Program in the Portfolio of Primary Health Care Services.</p> <p>The health professionals involved are located in the health center and travel to the educational center.</p> <p><u>Conceptualization</u>: Questionnaire for healthcare workers in health centers to find out their needs regarding intervention in addictions. Based on these, a training program was designed; later, educational counselors and local technicians were included along with health workers.</p> <p><u>Beginning of the implementation</u>: visit to the Managements of the Murcian Health Service, for coordination from the health centers.</p>
<p>Results of the initiative</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What were the deliverables? - Can you give some examples of actions resulting from the initiative? - What do you think was the impact of the initiative, if any? 	<p>High participation of the health, education and local sectors, above all because the intervention is progressive, adapting to the different characteristics of the participating entities and the different professionals involved, respecting their times and including their proposals. Identify their needs to adapt to them. It is designed to connect health professionals located in health centers, tutor teachers and counselors, and local technicians responsible for local addiction prevention.</p> <p>The training actions have a beneficial effect on the participation in the program of the mediators involved, increasing the number of educational, health and municipal centers in the following school year.</p> <p>The inter-institutional coordination favored the opening of the health centers to the approach of the prevention and early detection of the consumption of alcohol, cigarettes and cannabis.</p> <p>The impact of the Program on schoolchildren is shown in the ESTUDES survey (Survey on drug use in Secondary Education in Spain carried out biannually by the Spanish Observatory on Drugs and Addictions -OEDA) in the Region of Murcia and in comparison with Spain and the other autonomous communities. The impact is positive, with a constant decrease in alcohol consumption since 2012, in all types of</p>

	consumption (sometime, last 12 months and last 30 days) being, in addition, the Region of Murcia the one with the lowest prevalence of alcohol consumption adolescent shows in 2021 (ESTUDES 2021 Report, OEDA).
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<p>Evaluation of the initiative</p> <p>Was the initiative evaluated? If Yes - <i>How, and by whom?</i></p> <p>- Name two things that went well.</p> <p>- Name two things that could be improved.</p> <p>- What were the main <u>barriers</u> to intersectoral working?</p> <p>- What were the main <u>facilitators</u> for intersectoral working?</p> <p>- What advice would you give to others who would like to do a similar initiative?</p>	<p>Yes.</p> <p>PROCESS EVALUATION: Each school year, participation is collected by town halls and sent to Ministry of Health, which issues a report that is forwarded to the Spanish Ministry of Health. High participation.</p> <p>EVALUATION OF RESULTS: It was carried out by external personnel from research project of Foundation for Healthcare Training and Research. Three external evaluations.</p> <p>In alcohol the program is effective stopping its onset, binge drinking and drinking every week. It also moderates initiation of cigarettes and cannabis use. Greater perception of risk, less group pressure... (see links).</p> <p>THINGS WELL:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Acceptance of the Program by the different mediators. High participation. - Good institutional relations that facilitate continuity and sustainability. <p>IMPROVED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training of teachers and health professionals in use of manuals for fidelity in implementation. - Continuous adaptation of resources. <p>BARRIERS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - That the three groups of mediators meet in person to work together. - Continuous coordination due to the regional scope of the intervention <p>FACILITATORS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - That the promoter managers get involved in taking the Program to the other three public entities involved (Education, Health, Local entity). <p>ADVICE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use evaluated programs, or if they are going to develop them, be trained in what the evidence shows to be effective and translate it adapted to the real needs and possibilities of the population and the mediators. - Start from the demands of those involved and involve the mediators (implementers) in training and improvement actions.
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	<p>-That the technical promoters are accessible to the mediators (implementers) and help to solve the problems that arise.</p>
<p>Additional information if available:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Links to relevant websites - Link to / title of relevant articles - Other relevant resources 	<p>Materiales “Argos” accesibles en “Manuales” desde el portal Web: http://www.e-drogas.es/</p> <p>"Evaluación de resultados del Proyecto educativo ALCOHOL: CONCIENCIA CON CIENCIA del Programa ARGOS-Región de Murcia de prevención del consumo de alcohol en alumnado de 1º de Educación Secundaria Obligatoria". Revista Española Salud Pública. Vol. 96: 7 de marzo 2022. https://www.murciasalud.es/recursos/ficheros/423658-Boletin_Junio_2018_Vinculos.pdf</p> <p>"Programa ARGOS. Evaluación de resultados del Proyecto educativo ALCOHOL: CONCIENCIA CON CIENCIA". Boletín Epidemiológico Región de Murcia, Volumen 38 - N.º 825 - Junio 2018. https://www.sanidad.gob.es/biblioPublic/publicaciones/recursos_propios/resp/revista_cdrom/VOL96/ORIGINALES/RS96C_202203026.p</p> <p>“Programa ARGOS-Comunitario/Educativo. Modelo de prevención escolar y comunitaria”. Comunidad Autónoma de la Región de Murcia, 2022. http://www.argos.e-drogas.es/ServletDocument?document=3508</p> <p>Manual “Unidades Didácticas Alcohol: ALTACAN, para 2º de ESO”. Consejería de Salud. Actualización 2021. http://www.argos.e-drogas.es/ServletDocument?document=834</p> <p>Manual “Unidades Didácticas Drogas: conciencia con ciencia, para 1º de ESO”. Consejería de Salud. Actualización 2019 http://www.argos.e-drogas.es/ServletDocument?document=3448</p> <p>Manual “Pillando Fake News. Prevención del consume de alcohol”. Consejería de Salud, 2021. http://www.argos.e-drogas.es/ServletDocument?document=3482</p> <p>Manual “Nudos. Unidad didáctica sobre cannabis-tabaco”, Comité Nacional para la Prevención del Tabaquismo, Proyecto EViCT, 2021. http://www.argos.e-drogas.es/ServletDocument?document=3449</p>