Long Term Forensic Psychiatric Care in Belgium First Experiences in Flanders

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08/11/2018



Table of Contents

History

Long Term Forensic Psychiatric Care Quality of Life Protection

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Research





Research

Table of Contents

History

Long Term Forensic Psy Quality of Life Protection

Researc





Short History: Belgium and Forensic Psychiatric Care

1930: Progressive law for offenders with psychiatric problems/mental disabilities
Not guilty by reason of insanity (NGRI)

But: The progressive law stayed theory

Since mid-80's: 23 convictions from the European Court of Human

Rights

Peak: 10% of prison-population NGRI (>1.100)





Forensic Psychiatric Care for NGRI: 1998 - 2016

- 1998 Start specialized teams for sexual delinquents. Also for, but no specific focus on, sexual delinquents NGRI
- 2001 3 Medium Security Facilities and 3 units for people with mental disabilities
- 2014 Extra capacity in Non-Forensic Psychiatric Care
- 2015 First High-Security Forensic Psychiatric Center
- 2016 Unit Long Term Forensic Psychiatric Care.
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Table of Contents

Long Term Forensic Psychiatric Care Quality of Life Protection

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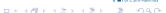




Academic Psychiatric Center Sint-Kamillus, Bierbeek Medium Security Forensic Psychiatry since 2001

- ➤ 3 units Medium Security treatment Schizophrenia and Personality Disorders
- 2 units Medium Security treatment (longer term) and Long Term 'Medium Security' Care Schizophrenia and Personality Disorders
- ▶ 1 team for Outreachment Forensic FACT
- 1 unit Medium Security Treatment (since April 2018)
 Mental Disability
- ▶ 1 unit Long Term Forensic Psychiatric Care (LFP)





LFP

Long Term Forensic Psychiatric Care High Security Capacity: 30 men April 2016

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Inclusion - Exclusion

Inclusion

- Patiënts with a sustained risk level
- Limited/no possibilities for resocialisation

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Exclusion

- Level op group-functioning
- High risk on aggression
- High risk on escape





Goals

- ► Quality of Life
- Protection





Quality of Life

Theoretical Principles

Good Lives Model (Ward, 2002)

Everybody is in search of activities that contribute to their general well-being.

Criminal Behavior

Maladjusted behavior: inappropriate means of securing the defined goals in function of the general well-being.





Quality of Life

Theory: Consequences

Risk oriented approach

- ► Start = Risk Assessment
- Additionally = Patient motivation and responsivity of the patient

GLM-approach

- Start = Patient's goals (contributing to quality of life)
- Analysis of the capacities and risks in obtaining these goals





Theory in Practice

- ▶ Before admission: clear about the unit's objectives
- No treatment (Therapy vs Activities)
- Participation!Rules vs AgreementsImportance of the group
- Basic (Care) Needs (somatic care, Freedom, Responsibilities. . .)
- Restore network
- Yes, unless...'





Protection

Security Measures

Infrastructure and Procedures

- ▶ 4m fence
- Camera-system
- Training of staff members
- Alarm-system

Relational Security

- ▶ 'Therapeutic' relationship = core of our security-measures
- Giving Responsibilities to patients
- No drugs/alcohol
- ▶ No violence





Protection

Evaluation

Patient is part of the evaluation process! Quality of Life

► Interview + Questionnaire (FQL-SV)

Protection

Risk Assessment

Goal

To adjust the offered treatment (environment) so that it corresponds with the needs and possibilities of the patient, with security of the patient(s) and his environment in mind.





Research

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Histor

Long Term Forensic

Quality of Lif

Protection

Research





Research

Risk Assessment?

Current instruments: treatment perspective

Few (?) instruments: evaluation of risk in the current setting,

without future perspectives taken into account

Limitations: not in psychiatric context





Goal

To develop and validate a

- Contextualized assessment of adaptation in a forensic psychiatric context
- Daily indicators of transgressive behavior
- Self-perspective
- Relevance of Personality Pathology
- ► Supportive of Risk Assessment





Progress

- Construction of the instrument
- Extensive literature review
- Pilot study
- Initial psychometric properties and validation study

Interesting connections between our instrument and the AMPD (DSM-5)





Future

- ► Within-person variance of adaptation and personality factors
- Cross validation across a larger forensic sample
- Further exploration of the contribution of model to risk assessment





Questions?

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