Prioritization in health – how can we enhance prevention?
the case of Finland

Eeva Nykänen 25.1.2023

Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare
Right to adequate services and obligation to promote health

- According to 19.3 § of Finnish Constitution, the public authorities shall guarantee for everyone, as provided in more detail by an Act, adequate social and health services and promote the health of the population.

- So far, the emphasis has been on the right to adequate services, not on health promotion.
  - However:
    - alcohol monopoly
    - governmental programs and resolutions, such as the ‘Child Strategy’ and ‘Government Resolution on Promotion of wellbeing, health and safety in 2030’ and other ‘soft’ policy measures
New tools for enhancing prevention after the social and health care reform

- In the beginning of 2023, the responsibility for organizing social and health care was shifted from the municipalities to 22 wellbeing services counties and the city of Helsinki.

- The aims of the reform include enhancing prevention and strengthening the primary services as well as strengthening the state control over the social and health care system.
• Tools for achieving these aims include:

• **Negotiation processes** between the state and the wellbeing services counties for setting strategic aims
  • enhancing prevention can be defined as one of the strategic aims.

• **Allocation of resources** to the wellbeing services counties
  • The state will fund the counties – the management of the funding creates for the state a framework for enhancing prevention.
Coefficient for health and wellbeing promotion

• Act on financing the basic public services of municipalities 618/2021
  • Coefficient for the municipality health and wellbeing promotion is based on indicators that measure the activities within health and wellbeing promotion and indicators measuring the outcomes of the health and wellbeing promotion in municipalities.
  • About 100 M€ will be allocated based on the coefficient

• Act on financing the wellbeing services counties 617/2021
  • Funding of wellbeing services counties is based on a) per capita basis, b) coefficient for health and social service needs, c) population density coefficient, d) foreign languages, e) bilingualism, f) archipelago, saami language, and g) coefficient based on health and wellbeing performance.
  • About 200 M€ (1 % of total funding) will be allocated based on the health and wellbeing promotion coefficient (will be applied from 2026 onwards)

Timo Ståhl
26/01/2023
Incentives for prevention and health promotion – health and wellbeing promotion coefficient

**Municipalities**
- 97% Other state funding
- 3% Coefficient for promoting health and wellbeing

100 million euros

**Wellbeing services county**
- 80.264% Per capita basis
- 4.146% Need for health, social and rescue services
- 0.977% Coefficient for promoting health and wellbeing
- 14.613% Circumstances

200 million euros

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Coefficient for promoting wellbeing and health - Municipalities

**Process indicators**

- Health and wellbeing promotion in basic schools (4)
- Promotion of sport and physical activity (5)
- Management of health and wellbeing promotion in municipality (5)

**Outcome indicators**

- Overweight
- Perceived health
- Not in education or training
- Disability pension
- Periods of care arising from accidental falls
- Long-term social assistance

Change in the health and wellbeing status of the population

Activites for promoting health and wellbeing of the population

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26.1.2023
Coefficient for promoting wellbeing and health - Wellbeing services counties

**Process indicators**

Acticities and resources for the promotion of health and wellbeing

- Health examinations at child health clinics
- School social workers working in student welfare services
- Children vaccination coverage
- Prevention of type II diabetes
- Health examinations for unemployed people
- Psychologists working in pupil welfare services
- Alcohol brief intervention

**Outcome indicators**

Change in health and wellbeing status

- Injuries and poisonings
- Hip fractures
- NEET
- Basic social assistance
- Disability pension recipients

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26.1.2023