

Title

The development of a social supplement for the BelRAI instruments to evaluate the social context of persons with care needs in home care.

Authors & Institutions:

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Abstract:

Goal: In 2018, the federal and Flemish governments confirmed their commitment to the national implementation of BelRAI. The BelRAI instruments map out different care needs, symptoms and preferences of vulnerable persons. The results can be used to draw up care plans. The BelRAI instruments mainly focus on intrapersonal factors (e.g. health status; mood). In home care, interpersonal factors -the social context- also have an impact on the care needs and the care use of a person. This study aims to develop a social supplement for the BelRAI instruments to answer the complex care and support questions in Flemish home care.

Methodology: By means of a literature study, nine focus groups, and a number of expert panels with stakeholders from the Flemish home care sector (care providers and users), we looked at the various social environmental factors that may have an influence on the care need/care demand. These factors were used as a guide for the development of the first version of the social supplement. This version will be tested in 2019 on about 1000 people in home care in Flanders.

Results: Our findings show that knowledge about the social context of person with care needs is indispensable when drawing up an effective care plan. The test version of the social supplement consists of 4 modules: Environmental assessment, Social engagement, Psychosocial wellbeing, and Informal care and support.

Conclusion: The Social context is complex and not easy to define. This study will result in a validated social supplement for the BelRAI instruments in home care in Flanders.