

Family Group Conferencing in youth care: effectiveness and characteristics of the decision making model and implementation of the Family Group (FG) plans

No registrations found.

Ethical review	Not applicable
Status	Pending
Health condition type	-
Study type	Interventional

Summary

ID

NL-OMON21946

Source

NTR

Health condition

Family Group conferencing; effectiveness; safety; out of home placement; commitment of the social network; empowerment; amount of professional care

Familienetwerkberaden; effectiviteit; veiligheid; uithuisplaatsing; betrokkenheid sociaal netwerk, eigen kracht; zorgbehoefte

Sponsors and support

Primary sponsor: University of Amsterdam

Forensic Child and Youth Care Sciences

Nieuwe Prinsengracht 130

1018 VZ Amsterdam

Source(s) of monetary or material Support: ZonMW

Bureau jeugdzorg Agglomeratie Amsterdam

Eigen Kracht Centrale

Intervention

Outcome measures

Primary outcome

- Child safety
- Commitment of social network
- Increased Control/empowerment of the family
- Supervision order (and duration)
- Professional care

Secondary outcome

- Characteristics of participants (gender; type of problems; ethnicity, etc.)
- Characteristics of the implementation of Family Group Conferencing (time to Conference; number of participants; etc.)
- Characteristics of the implementation of the plan (characteristics of the Family Manager; number of contacts re plan; number of professionals involved, etc.)

Study description

Background summary

Family Group Conferencing is regularly carried out in the Netherlands as a decision making procedure in youth care. Aim is to allow families to develop their own help plan, aiming to address the problems in such way that the family continues to be leading (instead of a professional worker), however, with the condition that the safety of the children in the families is guaranteed. At the end of a Family Group Conference, there has to be agreement between the family members, members of the broader social network, of the coordinator Family Group conferencing and family Manager of Bureau Youth Care on the carrying out of the help plans that have been developed during the family group conference.

Question is, however, whether the Family Group conferences and the FG plans that have been developed are effective in terms of 1) more safety for children in the families, 2) an increased commitment of the social network, 3) increased control of the family (empowerment), and less use of professional care. Most research shows positive results, based on pre-post test assessments. Those studies that did include a control group show

negative or contradictory findings. The only Dutch study using a comparison group concludes that the reported positive results cannot be attributed to Family Group Conferencing with certainty. Evidence for the effectiveness of Family Group Conferencing in Dutch Youth Care is thus still lacking.

The present study aims to find out whether Family Group conferencing and the carrying out of the FG plans are effective. Goals are thus to find out whether Family Group Conferences and the carrying out of the FG plans indeed lead to: 1) sufficient safety of the children in the family; 2) increased commitment of the social network; 3) increased control of the family regarding family problems, empowerment of the parents; less professional care. A second aim is to examine whether the effectiveness of Family group conferencing is affected by characteristics of the method, characteristics of the Family Managers or characteristics of participating families.

Study objective

We expect after FGC:

- increased child safety (in terms of less supervision orders; and less or shorter out of home placements)
- increased commitment of the broader social network of the family
- increased perceived control over problems/sense of empowerment by parent(s)
- less need for/use of professional help
- improved family functioning

Furthermore, we expect that:

program (implementation and role of family manager) as well as participant characteristics moderate the effectiveness of family group conferencing.

Study design

T1: pre-test

T2: post-test after 1 month (by telephone)

T3: post-test after 3 months (by telephone)

T4: post-test after 6 months (questionnaire)

T5: follow-up assessment after 12 months (questionnaire)

Intervention

Family Group Conferencing and Generic Family Oriented Approach versus Generic Family Oriented Approach only

Contacts

Public

Hanneke Creemers
Nieuwe Achtergracht 127
Kamer D9.19
Amsterdam 1018 WS
The Netherlands
+31 (0)20 525 1451

Scientific

Hanneke Creemers
Nieuwe Achtergracht 127
Kamer D9.19
Amsterdam 1018 WS
The Netherlands
+31 (0)20 525 1451

Eligibility criteria

Inclusion criteria

All families referred to Bureau Youth Care Amsterdam and Surroundings (BYCAS) for help.

Exclusion criteria

none

Study design

Design

Study type:	Interventional
Intervention model:	Parallel
Allocation:	Non-randomized controlled trial
Masking:	Single blinded (masking used)
Control:	Active

Recruitment

NL	
Recruitment status:	Pending
Start date (anticipated):	01-01-2014
Enrollment:	300
Type:	Anticipated

Ethics review

Not applicable	
Application type:	Not applicable

Study registrations

Followed up by the following (possibly more current) registration

No registrations found.

Other (possibly less up-to-date) registrations in this register

No registrations found.

In other registers

Register	ID
NTR-new	NL4161
NTR-old	NTR4320

Register

Other
ISRCTN

ID

: FGC
ISRCTN wordt niet meer aangevraagd.

Study results

Summary results

N/A