

UNDERSTANDING SPECIFIC NEEDS IN HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE

LO₃: Understand approaches and intervention strategies that support individuals with specific needs

AC 3.2 Evaluate the effectiveness of intervention strategies for an individual with specific need(s)

Evaluate the effectiveness of intervention strategies for an individual with specific need(s)

- The intervention strategies are important for the individuals with specific needs. Hence, the effectiveness of the intervention strategies should be proved to be helpful and useful for the implementation of the intervention strategies (Jennings, 1986).
- Evaluation of the effectiveness of the intervention strategies play important role for the overall success of the strategies.

Approaches and interventions that support individuals with specific needs

- Self-help,
- Direct action
- Partnerships
- Evidence-based practice,
- Advocacy,
- Guardianship,
- Autonomy and empowerment,
- Risk management;
- Medical,
- Technological
- Therapeutic products,
- Lifestyle choices and therapies

Evaluate the effectiveness of Interventions

- If the intervention proves helpful then it can be said to be effective.
- Determine how well goals and objectives were achieved.
- Were intended participants reached?
- Were the planned outcomes obtained?
- Assess the long-term effects of your efforts

Was the intervention helpful?

- Did people get the required help from the intervention?

Determine how well goals & Objectives were achieved.

- Goals: A **goal** is a desired result or outcome that a person or a system envisions, plans and commits to achieve
- Objectives. A specific result that a person or system aims to achieve within a time frame and with available resources. (Business dictionary, 2016)
- Every intervention would have targeted goals and objectives.
- When interventions are carried out, evaluation will prove if the goals and objectives were achieved.
- If goals and objectives were achieved then the intervention was successful.

Were intended participants reached?

- Every intervention is aimed at a targeted population.
- If the targeted population was reached and positively impacted then the intervention was successful.
- E.g. If an intervention is implemented to reach physically disabled persons in community x and these persons do not make use of the intervention however persons from community Y took advantage of the intervention, then the targeted population was not reached.

Were the planned outcomes obtained?

- The expected outcome of an intervention has to be obtained for it to be considered effective.

Assess the long-term effects of your efforts

- Intervention efforts are intended to produce long term results.
- If intervention strategies work only for a short period and then the person with specific needs revert to a previous state then the intervention is not effective, unless it is a case where the patient is now cured/healed.

Methods of Evaluation

- Observation
- Questionnaires
- Interviews
- Focus Group
- Personal logs

Observation

- Use of oall of senses to examine people in natural settings or naturally occurring situations.

Questionnaire

- A **questionnaire** is a research instrument consisting of a series of questions and other prompts for the purpose of gathering information from respondents.
(McLeod, 2014)

Interviews

- These are questions that are posed to an individual and answers are expected. Interviews are normally face to face and involve social interaction. Interviews can be structured (formal with close ended questions) or unstructured (guided conversations). (McLeod , 20

Focus Groups

- A **focus group** is a form of qualitative research in which a **group** of people are asked about their perceptions, opinions, beliefs, and attitudes towards a product, service, concept, advertisement, idea, or packaging.
- In this case, people would be asked about the intervention or strategy employed to offer support towards their specific need.

Personal Logs

- A log used to record thoughts, experiences etc.

Self Help

- Self help is about teaching specific life skills to persons with specific needs.
- It supports independent living.
- Self help groups: supports people with similar needs.
- Example a group that provides support to parents so that they feel competent in making decisions concerning a child with a disability. E.g. a child with Down Syndrome.

Self Help

- Self-help groups are increasingly being recognized as viable, efficient methods of supplementing and extending the present health and mental health care system to the point of being characterized as an "emerging social movement" (Borkman, 1990; Katz, 1981).
- Self help groups are highly utilized a such they are effective in alleviating problems.
- Self-help groups have been shown to improve health conditions and prevent problems associated with chronic illness. (Speigel, Bloom, J., Kraemer, H., & Gottheil, E. (1989)

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