Assessing concerns and care needs of expectant parents

Anne van Driessche, MSc.
Dr. Ingrid Staal (GGD Zeeland), Dr. Henk van Stel (UMC Utrecht)

Developers preSPARK: Dr. Ingrid Staal & Dr. Henk van Stel
GGD Zeeland, Julius Centrum, Universitair Medisch Centrum Utrecht
In collaboration with Remy Vink & Bregje van Sleuwen, TNO
- Background
- Why preSPARK
- Methods
- Results
- Next step: validity and reliability
- Expected results and relevance
Background

- Adverse situations for a healthy development before birth
- Less severe problems
Why preSPARK

- Evaluation prenatal home visits
- Need for a structured instrument
- Implementation project
- Working Group
- preSPARK development
Methods

• Development representatives from 6 different CHC institutions
• 13 domains
• Feasibility and discriminative capacity

• 64 home visits done by 21 nurses
• Period July 2014 – March 2015
• User experience
### Results Development

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>preSPARK topics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Period before pregnancy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Experience pregnancy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Health and lifestyle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Preview on giving birth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Preview on maternity period</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Preview on raising the child</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g. Language use</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h. Living environment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i. Social contacts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>j. Concerns communicated by others</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>k. Family issues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>l. Preview on own future</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>m. Anything forgotten?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Results
Concerns, need of support, risk assessment

• Most concerns reported topics:
  - period before pregnancy
  - family issues
  - concerns communicated by others

• Perceived need support topic ‘preview on raising the child’ professionals significantly higher than expectant parents

Low risk • 31%
Increased risk • 40%
High risk • 29%
Results

Correlation coefficients

- Between parents concerns, perceived need of support and overall risk assessment professionals
  moderate – high (0.53 – 0.80)

- Significant correlations with parent concerns and risk assessment were found for several risk factors
  - parents unemployed/unemployable
  - parents low education
  - not a two-parent household
Results

User experience & conclusion

• User experience
  - preSPARK resulted in more information
  - Did not feel rushed
  - Supported the conversation
  - Easier to ask sensitive questions

• preSPARK is feasible in daily practice and clarifies risks and care needs
Next step: validity & reliability
Pregnant woman

Obstetric care provider

Consult - referring to

Group 1: Target group preSPARK (N>100)
- Give brochure and information letter to pregnant woman
- Refer to CHC nurse according to the local agreement

Group 2: Comparison group without known risk factors (N>100)
- Give an explanation reason home visit without indication
- Give brochure and information letter to pregnant woman
- Refer to CHC nurse according to the local agreement

Group 3: Comparison group with severe problems (N>30)
- Give brochure and information letter to pregnant woman
- Refer to CHC nurse according to the local agreement

CHC nurse
- Make an appointment with expectant parent(s)
CHC nurse
- Make an appointment with expectant parent(s)

Home visit by CHC nurse with preSPARK
- Give information letter
- Ask informed consent for the study

After contact moment:
- Feedback to obstetric care provider
- Follow-up actions client
- Process dossier client
- Process research forms

Research team

Data check

Research file

Contact - Support
- Contact/support
- Check when there is missing information
Expected results and relevance

• Valid & reliable

• Insight into structure and relevance of contact of the CHC nurses in the prenatal phase

• Contribution to effective early prevention for a specific group
Is it possible/desirable to do the preSPARK in all pregnant women?
Thank you

Any questions?