

Work package title: WP 1: Prevalence Study

Presentation title: ASD Prevalence Study in Austria

Presenter: Univ.-Prof. Dr. Luise Poustka/ mag. Oswald Kothgassner

Update on authorisations:

- Authorisation of local Ethics Committee granted
- Authorisation of the School Board of the City of Vienna granted

Update on activities:

The ASD prevalence study in Austria is based on an analysis of a sample of the main population of children at the age of 7-9 who visit an elementary school or a school for children with special needs in Vienna. The study will include about 8 000 children to be screened for an ASD diagnosis (ICD-10: F84). Parents will fill in three screening questionnaires, which will be provided both online or in paper version.

Currently 35 schools (N= 9000 children minus drop-outs) in Vienna agreed to participate, consent of another 10 schools is pending. Questionnaires including links for the online survey will be handed over to schools October- December 2016. Recollection of questionnaires and data entry will be done January-March 2017. Phase 2 including ADOS Assessment will start April 2017

Next steps:

- Further recruitment
- Delivery of the questionnaires and collection of the data
- Data analysis

Key learning:

What worked well?

Recruitment of the children works fine. The head offices of the schools are very interested in our study and in ASD and thus are very cooperative. .

What could be done differently?

The time to get the permissions for the study has been significantly longer than expected.

More personnel resources to conduct the study would have been helpful.