Promoting Mental Health: the economic case

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Promoting mental health - The economic case: introduction

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Promoting mental health: plan

A. Martin Knapp - Introduction
B. Eva-Maria Bonin - Promoting mental wellbeing in young people
C. David McDaid - Intersectoral actions
D. Antonis Kousoulis - Response
E. Sarah Carr - Response
F. Discussion
Disability: years lived with disability by cause and age, UK in 2010

Murray et al, Lancet 2013
DALYs for each mental and substance use disorder, global, 2010, by age

Many consequences - some economic

- Distress, pain
- Poor quality of life
- Economic and social exclusion
- Stigma and discrimination
- Self-harm and suicide
- Premature death
- Criminal activity
- Impacts on others - family, colleagues, communities
Costs of depression for adults in England, 2000 - mortality & health care

Excluding ‘morbidity’ costs

Out-patient 2%
Day care 0%
In-patient 3%
Primary care medication 33%
Mortality 61%
General practitioner 1%

Thomas & Morris Brit J Psychiatry 2003
Costs of depression for adults in England, 2000 - absenteeism & unemployment

Total cost = £9 bn

Productivity 90%
Mortality 6%
Service costs 4%

Presenteeism costs (not shown) could be twice the size of absenteeism costs

Thomas & Morris Brit J Psychiatry 2003
Comparative employment rates by disability

Type of impairment

- Diabetes
- Skin conditions, allergies
- Chest, breathing problems
- Heart, blood pressure, circulation
- Stomach, liver, kidney, digestion
- Difficulty hearing
- Other problems, disabilities
- Difficulty seeing
- Arms, hands
- Back of neck
- Legs or feet
- Progressive illness
- Epilepsy
- Speech impediment
- Depression, bad nerves
- Learning difficulties
- Mental illness, phobia, panics

Marmot Review 2010
Poverty rates by severity of disorder

Causation can run in both directions

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a) Per person net income adjusted for household size. For Australia and Denmark, data refer to gross income.
b) The low-income threshold determining poverty risk is 60% of median income.

OECD 2012
Mental health problems: ‘glorious’ complexity

- High prevalence; early onset
- Chronic course (often life-time)
- Complex interplay between genes & environment
- Stigma, discrimination, victimisation
- Complex links to wellbeing
- Strong links to suicide & self-harm
- Strong links to antisocial behaviour & crime
- Hence ... compulsory detention & treatment

- High, wide-ranging & enduring costs
- Enormous employment effects
- Impacts on family, friends, school/work peers