

# THE ACCESSIBILITY OF MENTAL HEALTHCARE SERVICES TO CHILDREN WITH MENTAL, BEHAVIOURAL, AND EMOTIONAL DISORDERS

**Study conducting period:** January-December 2015

**Aim of the study:** To evaluate the accessibility of mental healthcare services provided in Lithuania to children with mental, behavioural, and emotional disorders.

## **Tasks of the study:**

1. To evaluate the human resources providing primary mental healthcare services to children (0-17 years old) with mental, behavioural, and emotional disorders in regions and municipalities according to morbidity and disability level and the number of appointments.
2. To evaluate the accessibility in national mental health centres and the specialised Child Development Centre in Vilnius from the parents'/guardians' point of view and according to objective criteria.

## **Methodology**

### **Task 1**

The following indices will be used to describe and assess the human resources providing primary mental health services to children (0-17 years of age) with mental, behavioural, and emotional disorders according to districts and municipalities in 2014: a) morbidity and disability (number of ill people in 1000 children), ICD-10 AM F00-F99, b) the number of specialists (children and teenager psychiatrists, medical psychologists, social workers, and mental health nurses) (taken worker positions in 100,000 children), c) specialists' (children and teenager psychiatrists, medical psychologists) workload: a) number of taken positions in 1000 ill children, b) number of visits for one take specialist position per year.

The necessary data will be used from the Institute of Hygiene Health Information Centre compulsory health insurance fund system "SVEIDRA", VPSC (State Mental Health Centre), and NDNT (Disability and Working Capacity Assessment Office) databases.

The spread of children's morbidity and disability will be presented in a cartographical method.

### **Task 2**

Parents/guardians of children with mental, behavioural, and emotional disorders will be investigated in several methods – a survey method and a half-structured interview method.

**Contacts:** Dr. Loreta Stonienė, Institute of Hygiene Occupational Health Centre Research and Technology Evaluation Department, e-mail: [loretastoniene@gmail.com](mailto:loretastoniene@gmail.com).