ACTION: WP6

Goals of the project/research/study

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Work package 6 aims at identifying:
(1) who is more likely to develop aggression and associated disorders?
(2) who is likely to profit from prevention and intervention efforts?
(3) who is very unlikely to profit from prevention and intervention efforts?

Steps to accomplish these aims are:
(1) investigate and review literature on childhood aggression to gain more insight on which risk factors are associated with childhood aggression and which prevention and interventions programs have been used to reduce childhood aggression.
(2) Combine and analyze the data that has been gathered by the partners to eventually create a comprehensive framework and tools to improve clinical decision making processes combined with guidelines. These tools will not only be for clinicians, but also for parents, teachers, general practitioners, etc.
(3) We will also take the ethical, social, and legal implications into account, and whether these are different across countries in Europe.

This table shows the richness of the ACTION database with the different ages of measurement, the sample sizes of the different research groups and the total sample size for ACTION at each age, and the questionnaire that have been used to assess childhood aggression.

Current activities

1. Creating an overview of the data that has been collected by all the partners: which questionnaires have been used at which ages, and from which informants? This overview will support defining the aggression phenotype as measured in ACTION. In addition, the overview will be used to create a harmonized dataset.

2. Studying aggression as operationalized by the different research groups and whether aggression measured with different questionnaires behaves similarly in relation to covariates such as for example gender and age.

3. A systematic literature search for systematic reviews and meta-analyses that studied the effectiveness of treatment (e.g., prevention, intervention, or medication) on childhood aggression.

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The project relies on a large body of competences, since it comprises 12 partners, from 8 different countries: VU University Amsterdam; Leiden University Medical Center; Erasmus University Medical Centre; and Good Biomarker Sciences (Netherlands); Queensland Institute of Medical Research (Australia); Karolinska Institutet (Sweden); University of Helsinki (Finland); King’s College London (UK); University of Notre Dame du Lac (US); University of Cagliari (Italy); Diagenode SA (Belgium).