



## Abstract 120

### From Lapland with love : Open Dialogue ‘the Bruges experience’

#### Learning Goal

An introduction and explanation of the development and implementation of the Open Dialogue approach on several treatment levels (ambulant, daycare, residential) in the Bruges region.

#### Abstract Text

The Belgian government decided in 2010 to reduce significantly the amount of hospital beds from 152/100000 inhabitants to 100/100000 inhabitants.

For mental health care this was the beginning of an important shift from residential treatment to community health care. With the regional organization ‘Zorgcircuit Psychose Noord-West-Vlaanderen’ (<http://www.verbindendsprekenmetpsychose.com/>) we started with the implementation of the Open Dialogue approach of the Finnish professor Jaakko Seikkula. This approach was a perfect match with the popular new ‘concepts of networking with patients, family and peer counselors.

Since April 2016 the organization of the network has taken several steps.

- Organization of 2 conferences with Prof. Seikkula (Finland) and Professor Stijn Vanheule (Belgium),
- Foundation of the Open Dialogue Academy in the region of North-West-Flanders (Bruges region),
- SWOT analysis on the further organization and development of Open Dialogue under guidance of Dorte Elleby and Sune Kragelund (DK)
- Participation in the founding meeting of the Open Dialogue Trainers Network in Helsinki,
- Commitment Day Open Dialogue for managers, directors, psychiatrists and organizing committee of the ‘Zorgcircuit Psychose Noord-West-Vlaanderen under guidance of Nick Putman .

We started the first ‘Open Dialogue Meetings’ in practice since November 2017.

Dr. Carmen Leclercq, psychiatrist, will comment on the implementation of the Open Dialogue approach in the early detection team of psychosis and in the acute admission ward for psychosis in the psychiatric hospital pzonzelievevrouw in Bruges.

Dr Marc Calmeyn, psychiatrist, will reflect on the advantage to work with Open Dialogue in the daycare centre and the long -Term ward in the above-mentioned psychiatric hospital.

Mrs Christine Van Damme, staff officer at pzonzelievevrouw, will explore the effect on the organization of the wards and the need and installation of continuously education for the teams.

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Figure (jpg, jpeg or png, max 2MB)

Topic D1: High incidence - (Intercultural) Therapies

Presentation Preference Symposium\*

**ON THE HEALING POWER  
OF HUMAN RECONNECTION**