

CADTH Reference List

Workplace Electronic Health Promotion Campaigns for Substance Use, Gambling, and Gaming Prevention

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Key Message

- No evidence was identified regarding the cost-effectiveness of electronic workplace health promotion campaigns for the prevention of problematic substance use, gambling, and gaming.

Research Question

What is the cost-effectiveness of electronic workplace health promotion campaigns for the prevention of problematic substance use, gambling, and gaming?

Methods

Literature Search Methods

A limited literature search was conducted by an information specialist on key resources including MEDLINE, PsycINFO, the Cochrane Library, the University of York Centre for Reviews and Dissemination (CRD) databases, the websites of Canadian and major international health technology agencies, as well as a focused internet search. The search strategy comprised both controlled vocabulary, such as the National Library of Medicine's MeSH (Medical Subject Headings), and keywords. The main search concepts were substance use, gambling, or gaming, and the workplace. Search filters were applied to limit retrieval to health technology assessments, systematic reviews, meta-analyses, network meta-analyses, or economic studies. Comments, newspaper articles, editorials, and letters were excluded. The search was also limited to English-language documents published between January 1, 2011 and December 21, 2020. Internet links were provided, where available.

Selection Criteria and Summary Methods

One reviewer screened literature search results (titles and abstracts) and selected publications according to the inclusion criteria presented in Table 1. Full texts of study publications were not reviewed. The Overall Summary of Findings section was based on information available in the abstracts of selected publications.

Results

No health technology assessments, systematic reviews, or economic evaluations were identified regarding the cost-effectiveness of electronic workplace health promotion campaigns for the prevention of problematic substance use, gambling, and gaming.

References of potential interest that did not meet the inclusion criteria are provided in Appendix 1.

Table 1: Selection Criteria

Criteria	Description
Population	Adults in a workplace setting.
Intervention	Electronic health promotion campaigns for the prevention of problematic substance use (excluding tobacco smoking), gambling, or gaming. For example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • corporate intranet • social media • applications • email • short message service (SMS) or multimedia messaging service (MMS) mobile phone text messages • self-directed online programs • other electronic-led campaigns, strategies, or programs
Comparator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-electronic health promotion campaign • No intervention
Outcomes	Cost-effectiveness (e.g., cost per adverse event avoided, cost per quality-adjusted life-year gained, cost per disability-adjusted life-year, cost per hospitalizations)
Study Designs	Health technology assessments, systematic reviews, economic evaluations

Overall Summary of Findings

No relevant literature was found regarding the cost-effectiveness of workplace health promotion campaigns for the prevention of problematic substance use, gambling, and gaming; therefore, no summary can be provided.

References

Health Technology Assessments

No literature identified.

Systematic Reviews and Meta-analyses

No literature identified.

Economic Evaluations

No literature identified.

Appendix 1: References of Potential Interest

Systematic Reviews and Meta-analyses

Alternative Intervention – Not Specific to Electronic Promotion Campaigns

1. de Oliveira C, Cho E, Kavelaars R, Jamieson M, Bao B, Rehm J. Economic analyses of mental health and substance use interventions in the workplace: a systematic literature review and narrative synthesis. *Lancet Psychiatry*. 2020 10;7(10):893-910. [Medline](#)
2. Osilla KC, Van Busum K, Schnyer C, Larkin JW, Eibner C, Mattke S. Systematic review of the impact of worksite wellness programs. *Am J Manag Care*. 2012 Feb 01;18(2):e68-81. [Medline](#)
3. Roberts G, Grimes K. Return on investment: mental health promotion and mental illness prevention. London (ON): Canadian Policy Network at the University of Western Ontario; 2011: https://cpa.ca/docs/File/Practice/roi_mental_health_report_en.pdf. Accessed 2021 Jan 6.

See: Workplace (p.18-19), Table 4: Economic Studies for Mental Health Promotion and Mental Illness Prevention in the Workplace Sector (p.20-21)

Alternative Population – Not Specific to Workplace Settings

4. Kaner EF, Beyer FR, Garnett C, et al. Personalised digital interventions for reducing hazardous and harmful alcohol consumption in community-dwelling populations. *Cochrane Database Syst Rev*. 2017 Sep 25;9(9):Cd011479. [Medline](#)
5. Riper H, Blankers M, Hadiwijaya H, et al. Effectiveness of guided and unguided low-intensity internet interventions for adult alcohol misuse: a meta-analysis. *PLoS One*. 2014;9(6):e99912. [Medline](#)
6. Preventing excessive alcohol consumption: electronic screening and brief interventions (e-SBI). Atlanta (GA): The Community Preventive Services Task Force (CPSTF); 2012: <https://www.thecommunityguide.org/sites/default/files/assets/Alcohol-e-SBI.pdf>. Accessed 2021 Jan 6.

See: Economic Evidence (p.5)

7. Riper H, Spek V, Boon B, et al. Effectiveness of E-self-help interventions for curbing adult problem drinking: a meta-analysis. *J Med Internet Res*. 2011 Jun 30;13(2):e42. [Medline](#)

Alternative Outcome – Clinical Effectiveness

8. Phillips EA, Gordeev VS, Schreyogg J. Effectiveness of occupational e-mental health interventions: a systematic review and meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials. *Scand J Work Environ Health*. 2019 11 01;45(6):560-576. [Medline](#)
9. Wigham S, Bauer A, Robalino S, Ferguson J, Burke A, Newbury-Birch D. A systematic review of the effectiveness of alcohol brief interventions for the UK military personnel moving back to civilian life. *J R Army Med Corps*. 2017 Aug;163(4):242-250. [Medline](#)
10. Kolar C, von Treuer K. Alcohol misuse interventions in the workplace: A systematic review of workplace and sports management alcohol interventions. *Int J Ment Health Addiction*. 2015 Oct;13(5):563-583.

Randomized Controlled Trials

Alternative Outcome – Clinical Effectiveness

11. Khadjesari Z, Freemantle N, Linke S, Hunter R, Murray E. Health on the web: randomised controlled trial of online screening and brief alcohol intervention delivered in a workplace setting. *PLoS ONE*. 2014;9(11):e112553. [Medline](#)

Non-Randomized Studies

Alternative Outcome – Clinical Effectiveness

12. Leightley D, Puddephatt JA, Jones N, et al. A smartphone app and personalized text messaging framework (InDEx) to monitor and reduce alcohol use in ex-serving personnel: development and feasibility study. *JMIR Mhealth Uhealth*. 2018 Sep 11;6(9):e10074. [Medline](#)
13. Mauriello LM, Gokbayrak NS, Van Marter DF, Paiva AL, Prochaska JM. An internet-based computer-tailored intervention to promote responsible drinking: findings from a pilot test with employed adults. *Alcoholism Treatment Quarterly*. 2011;30(1):91-108. [Medline](#)

Review Articles

Alternative Intervention – Not Specific to Electronic Promotion Campaigns

14. Burnhams NH, Parry CD. The state of interventions to address substance-related disorders in South African workplaces: Implications for research, policy, and practice. *South African J Psychology*. 2015 Dec;45(4):495-507.

Additional References

15. Martinic M. Special focus IV. A business case for reducing alcohol-related harm in the workplace. In: Tackling harmful alcohol use: economics and public health policy. Paris (FR): Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development; 2015: https://read.oecd-ilibrary.org/social-issues-migration-health/tackling-harmful-alcohol-use/a-business-case-for-reducing-alcohol-related-harm-in-the-workplace_9789264181069-11-en. Accessed 2021 Jan 6.
See: Workplace interventions: Effectiveness and cost effectiveness (p.135-136)
16. Attridge M. The business case bibliography: 100 review papers on the workplace value of mental health, addiction and EAP services. *Employee Assistance Society of North America (EASNA) Research Notes*. 2011 Dec;2(4). <http://www.easna.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/08/EASNA-Research-Notes-Vol-2-No-4-DEC20112.pdf>. Accessed 2021 Jan 6.