

Why registering intellectual disability in general practice matters

Experiences and perceptions from Dutch primary care

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What?

We did a study to find out if people with an intellectual disability (ID) and general practitioners (GPs) **think it is important to write down the ID in GP medical records** and why.



Why?

The GP has a **medical record** for each patient.
The information in this record helps the GP give good care.

We found that for only **half the people with an ID** their ID is written down in their GP medical record.

GPs also do not always **recognize** or **write down** the ID. This can be due to a **lack of knowledge** about ID or **fear of stigmatizing** their patient.

So, the GP medical record does not always say if someone has an ID.

It can be important to write down the ID so GPs can **adapt their communication**, people with an ID can be **identified** and their **care** can be **improved**.

How?

5 **focus groups** with people with an ID



3 **focus groups** with GPs



Want to know more? Join our round table!

Seeing the Unseen - Intellectual Disability in medical records: How to Recognize, Report, and Respond

Friday July 31st, 10:45-11:30
Room 9

First results

Both people with an ID and GPs say the **patient-GP relationship is important**.



Most people with an ID **want** their ID **written down** in their medical record.

Most GPs **want** an ID **written down** in the medical records.



Example of how to write the ID down in the GP medical record:

Patient X, 47 years old

Has an **intellectual disability**, which means:

- Simple language
- They bring their caregiver
- Use pictures

GPs say it helps them to give **better care** by for example:

- ✓ Using simple language
- ✓ Taking time
- ✓ Repeating information