

Vision Screening in European Countries: What could be improved?



Work Package 3 - University of Sheffield*

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*The EUSCREEN foundation consists of Representatives of the 41 countries in Europe

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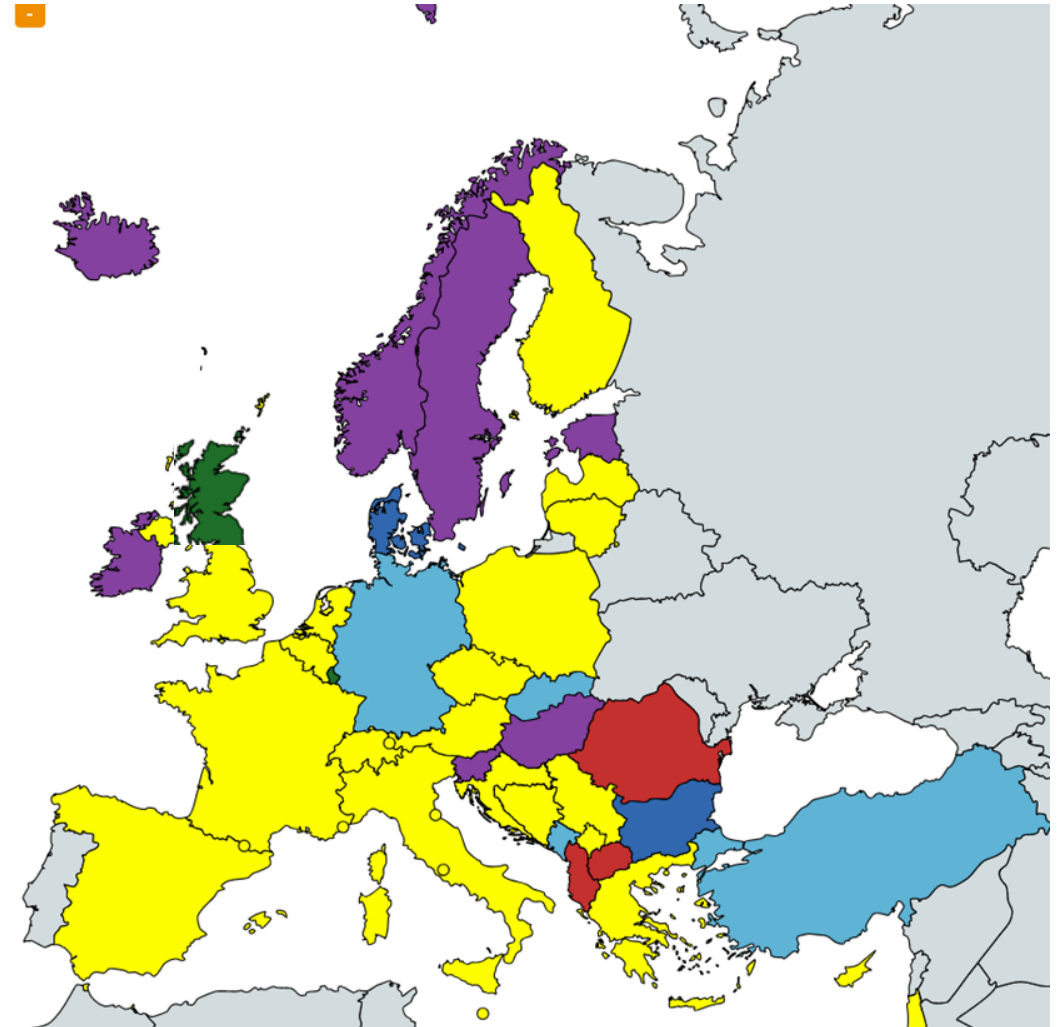
The current issues for vision screening

Huge variation in programmes delivered

Countries screening for many varied or undefined conditions

Countries/ regions without screening

Spending ++ despite unknown outcomes



What do we want?

Efficient systems for **timely detection** of reduced vision in childhood, equitably for **all children** in **all communities** throughout Europe.

Use limited resources effectively:

Minimise waste

Increase efficiency

What do we want?

Efficient systems for **timely detection** of reduced vision in childhood, equitably for **all children** in **all communities** throughout Europe.

Use limited resources effectively:

Minimise waste

Increase efficiency

Recognise that political, societal, cultural and geographical differences will require different solutions.

How can we make the most impact?

Ensure the available resources are used most effectively:

- Target condition important and clearly defined
- Population defined
- Who screens
- Test used is effective for the target condition
- Outcomes recorded, monitored and evaluated

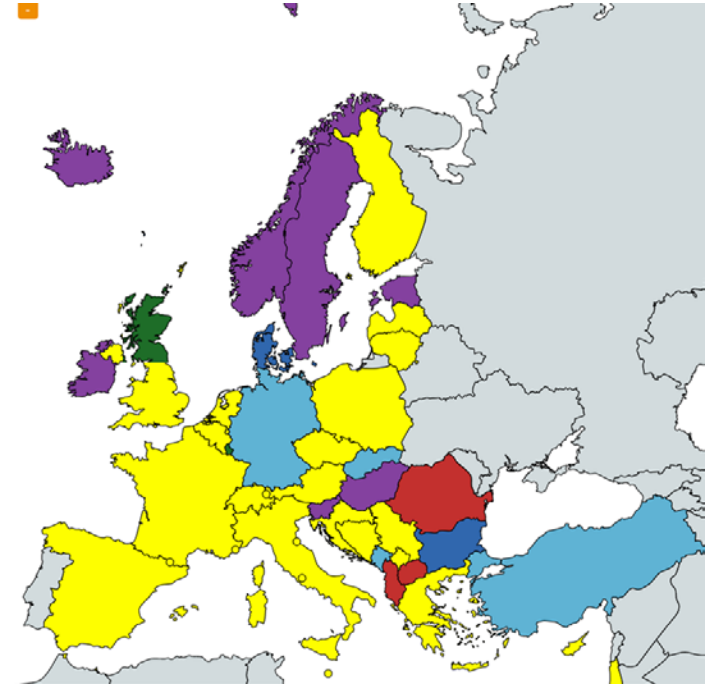
Most effective use of resources

Who screens?

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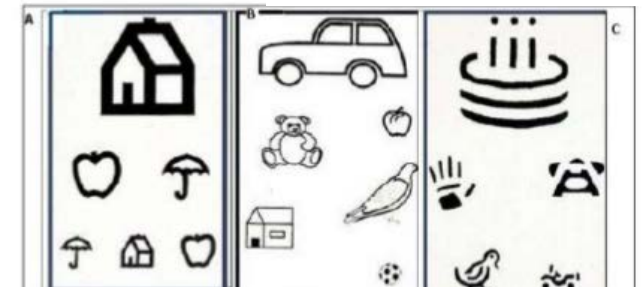
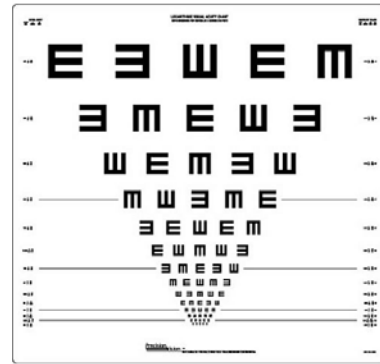
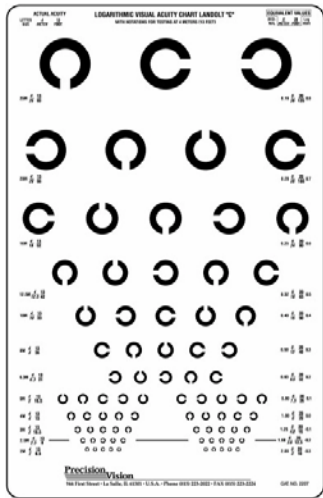


- Evidence shows - with training by experts
- competency checks
 - audit
 - retraining

Equal outcomes from healthcare assistants compared to Orthoptists

Most effective use of resources

Test(s) used?

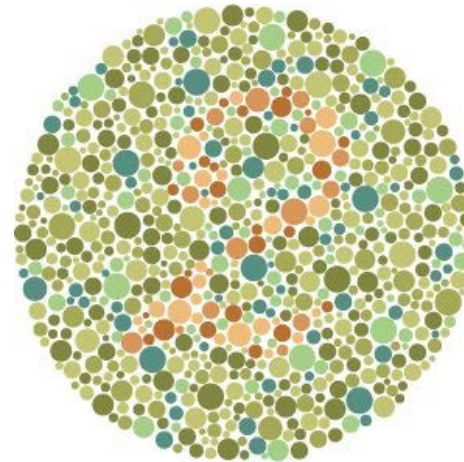


Most effective use of resources

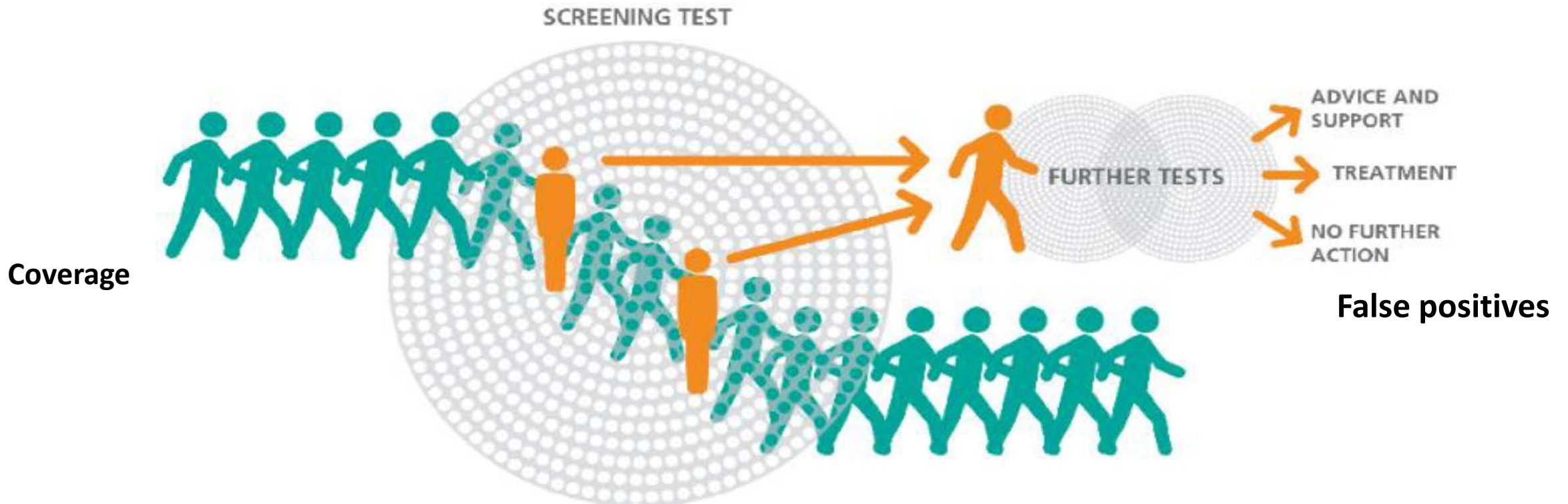
Test(s) used?

Additional tests - what target condition?

- are they effective at detecting the condition?
- cost / benefit of adding these?



How do we know if resources are used effectively?



Sensitivity = the programmes ability **to refer** individuals who **do have** the target condition

Specificity = the programmes ability **to not refer** those **without** the target condition

How do we know if resources are used effectively?

Results of EUSCREEN so far suggest that programme evaluation is either not happening or occurs on an adhoc basis.

Good quality data is vitally important to monitor and improve vision screening programmes

All countries could improve collection and reporting of screening outcomes

Vision Screening
Audit report 2019

Eligible population:

Number screened:

Number referred:

Time for diagnostics:

Number received
diagnostic test:

False positives:

Conclusion: What is happening?

- Vision screening is being resourced in most countries
- Programmes funded without information of outcomes
- Resources may be poorly targeted

Conclusion: What could be improved?

Target condition?

Eligible population?

Who should screen?

Is the test effective?

What are the referral criteria?

Evaluation of outcomes?

May involve review & change at a national level.

Even at regional or local level opportunity to reflect and improve effectiveness.

Thank you

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