

## **Sexual attraction in psychotherapeutic relationships**

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Studies from the eighties and nineties show that feelings of sexual attraction towards clients and engaging in sexual fantasies about clients are relatively common among psychotherapists, but seldom discussed in education or training programs. Unfortunately these studies were not being continued in the following decades, which is desirable because population of psychotherapists, ethical perspectives, taboos, education et cetera change over time.

This study aims to determine the prevalence of sexual attraction in psychotherapeutic relationships in Flanders, and the cognitive, emotional and behavioural responses it evokes. Also determinants that influences the prevalence and its responses will be investigated. Finally, attitudes towards behaviour of psychotherapists that could be linked to sexual attraction will be the focus of this study.

A large scale electronic survey will be disseminated among psychotherapists in Flanders. Besides this quantitative part of the study, focus-groups will be held, among these respondents.

The first results are expected in the first half of 2017.

Publications: /