# KBT-baserad behandling av dataspelsberoende

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## **Treatment for Gaming Disorder**



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## **Overview**

Gaming disorder & earlier treatment studies
A new CBT-manual for gaming disorder
Pilot results



### **Positive effects**

Practicing language skills (Sundqvist & Wikström, 2015)

Co-operative behaviours (Ewoldsen et al., 2012)

Attention and cognitive flexibility (Nuyens et al, 2019)

Problem-solving (Granic, 2014)

Participation in care (Vinblad et al, 2019)



## A diagnosis under development

A new and debated diagnosis

Addiction?

"Adding video gaming to the list of recognized behavioral addictions could help millions in need. It could also pathologize a normal behavior and create a new stigma." (Zastrow M, 2017)



## Gaming Disorder: ICD-11

Impaired control over gaming behaviour.

Increasing priority given to gaming behaviour to the extent that gaming takes precedence over other life interests and daily activities.

Continuation or escalation of gaming behaviour despite negative consequences.

All three criteria met during the last year (WHO, 2019)



Referens : WHO (2018)

### **Earlier treatment studies**

Largest evidence base for CBT (King et al., 2017)

Unclear if time spent gaming is reduced (Stevens et al., 2018)

Follow-up is often lacking (King et al., 2017; Zajac et al., 2017)

Poorly described interventions (King et al., 2017; Zajac et al., 2017)

Mostly tested in younger populations (King et al., 2017)

Mixed samples (Wölfling et al., 2019; Young, 2013)



### The treatment center

Opened in 2019

Gaming disorder & gambling disorder

Treatment & research

From age 15

Referrals & self-referrals

# The Clinic for Gambling disorder & Screen-health



## The Gothenburg treatment for gaming disorder (GOT-TO-GO)

Specifically designed for gaming disorder, with/without psychiatric co-morbidity:



Gaming diary

Making gaming more difficult

Behavioural activation

Unhelpful thoughts

Emotion regulation

Relapse prevention strategies



#### Additional resources:



- Family sessions
- Psychosocial support
- Health & lifestyle
- Additional modules



#### **OPEN ACCESS**

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## Pilot data findings from the Gothenburg treatment for gaming disorder: a cognitive behavioral treatment manual

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## The pilot study

Patients seeking treatment for gaming disorder

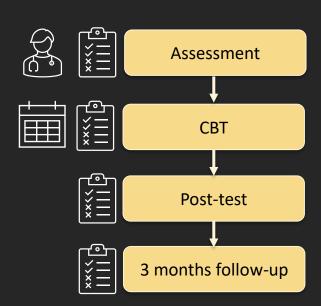
Cognitive behavioral treatment (CBT)

Single group study, with pre- and post testing

Participants: n = 28

15 years or older

Follow-up: 3 months



## **Demographics**

Variable	Total sample (n=28)
Age M (SD)	27.7 (7.3)

Age range 17-49

Men	96.4%
Women	3.6%

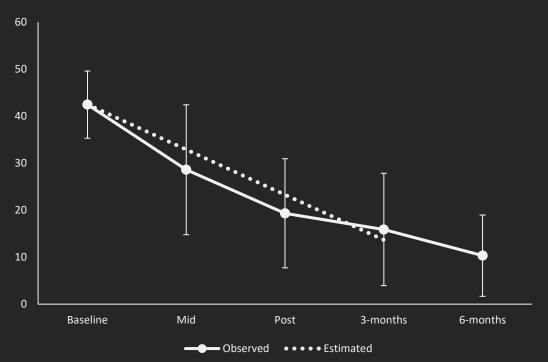
Working/studying	60.8%
Unemployed	14.3%
Sick-leave	17.9%
Other/combination	7.2%



## **Psychiatric co-morbidities**

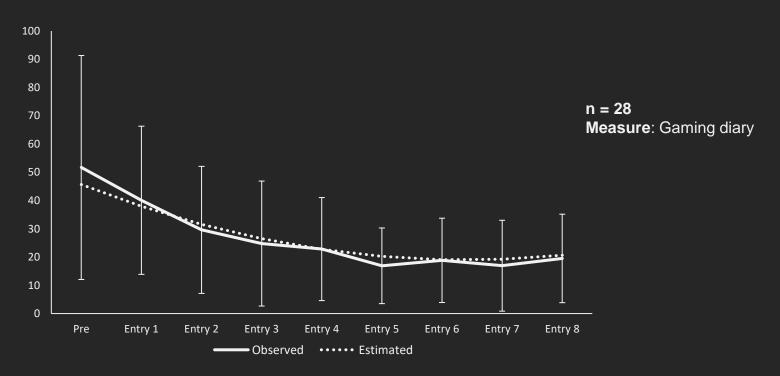
Diagnostic category	Total sample (n=28)
Substance use disorders	6
Schizophrenia etc.	1
Mood disorders	21
Neurotic disorders	8
Eating disorders etc.	3
Personality disorders,	2
Autism etc.	2
ADHD etc.	7

## Reduction in symptoms of gaming disorder

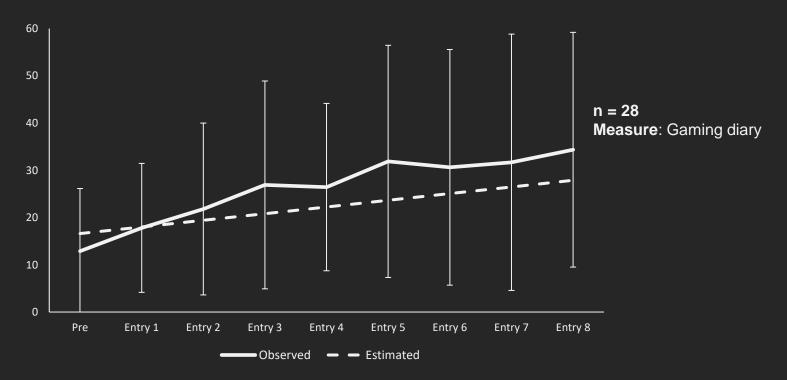


n = 28
Measure: Gaming
Identification Test (GAIT),
(Vadlin et al., 2015)

## Reduction in hours spent gaming



## Increase in screen-free lesiure time



## Summary

More research is needed about treatments

Mean age higher than expected

Promising pilot results

To be investigated further in a larger RCT



