New knowledge from Nordic interactive research for those who work with validation

NVL presents the Nordic Quality Model, which helps you to

- reflect on quality in the validation process
- identify strategically important elements in the validation process
- identify development areas
- create results for all stakeholders

The purpose of quality assurance in validation is to guide the system and assure the individual an equal, transparent and reliable process. It is important that the result of validation is valued equally as a result from education and training.

The quality model gives all validation providers an instrument to review the quality of their own validation process. The general and holistic character of the model allows for use in different situations and contexts.

It is a generic model to be used especially in educational institutions involving all staff engaged in validation, like practitioners, guidance counsellors, and organisation leaders.

The quality model is a tool that makes it possible to quality assure all steps in the validation process. Its formative structure and a number of decisive indicators help clarify what is already in place and what requires more development work for each of the eight steps important in validation.

The quality model is tested in three different countries and in three different educational contexts by a team of researchers from Sweden, Denmark and Finland. The model is found very useful to understand the complexity of the VPL. Approximately 100 validation providers have applied the Quality model in their work already.

The model includes three perspectives on quality:

1. Organisational Quality in developing a holistic approach for institutions to work with validation, as well as the development of evaluation measures, feedback mechanisms and improvement initiatives at all levels.

2. Assessment Quality by using distinct criteria, substantiated choices of methodology, and establishment of evaluation and documentation practices.

3. Procedural Quality as distribution of responsibility and roles (who does what, when and for whom?). Clear information, like website, brochures etc. and professional document handling.

The model can be used free of charge. It is available in English, Danish and Icelandic. The research results are summarised in a Nordic report. Upon request, the experts in the Nordic Expert Network for Validation hold training sessions on the implementation of the model. Please, email nordvux@gmail.com.