The Society for Psychotherapy Research (SPR)-International Study of the Development of Psychotherapists (ISDP).

About the program: The SPR-ISDP is run by a the Collaborative Research Network led by David Orlinsky. Michael Helge Rønnestad is the European coordintor.
The overall aim of the program is to map and conceptualize psychotherapists' development throughout the professional life-span. The program also studies the relationship between therapists' self-perceptions and the processes and outcomes of psychotherapy as assessed by clients and external observers. As of today data is collected from more than 10.000 psychotherapists from more than 30 countries (including more than 1600 from Norway) .
Further objectives: The program also maps current and retrospected experiences of work and development/decline for therapists across professions, nationalities, theoretical orientations, experience levels and gender, and investigates commonalities and variations against numerous potentially formative experiences. The program also contributes to the conceptualization of therapist effects.
Method: The common instrument in all data-collections is The Development of Psychotherapist Common Core Questionnaire (DPCCQ), which consists of 20 pages of mostly structured response-formatted questions which take approximately 2 hours to complete. A variety of other instruments are used for assessemment from other observational perspectives in sub-projects (e.g. client-rated Working Alliance Inventory or Outcome-Questionnaire-45).
Therapists of various professions, nationalities, experience levels and theoretical orientations.
Researchers: Anna von der Lippe and Rønnestad serve as the national coordinators. Scandinavian collaborators which use the entire or parts of the DPCCQ are: Steinar Lorentzen (study of Norw. Psychiatrists), Hanne Strømme (study of Oslo trainees), Tor Fjeldstad (study of clinical social-workers), Claus-Haugaard Jacobsen (study of Danish psychotherapists), Peter Elsass (study of Tibetan lamas), Siri Gullestad (study of Beijing trainees), and two Ph.D. fellows, Helene Amundsen Nissen-Lie (process/outcome study of Norw. psychotherapists) and Anne Cecilie Larsen (study of burnout of Norw. practitioners).
Procedure: Varied strategies for data-collection are used.
Financing: There is no central financing/or grant supporting the program. The program is financed by means provided largely by researchers' institutions and professional associations