

The Attachment Style, Social Support And Activity Participation In Persons With Illicit Drug Dependence

Lin-Jye Huang¹, Chin-Yu Wu², Yi-Hong Yang¹, Yung-Chun Fang¹, Pei-Shan Huang³, Hsin-Hsiu Yeh¹
¹*Department of Psychiatry, Taipei City Hospital, Taipei, Taiwan,* ²*Department of Occupational Therapy, Nova Southeastern University, Florida, United States,* ³*Department of Project, Bureau of National Health Insurance, Taipei, Taiwan*

Background: According to the World Health Organization (WHO), there are estimated 205 million illicit drug users in the world, including 25 million who have drug dependence. That brings about great threats in health, family and society. Reducing the damage of illicit drug dependence has become the important worldwide issue.

Objectives: Bartholomew & Horowitz (1991) proposed out the concept of "Attachment Style" to describe and explain the interpersonal relationships between human beings. Literatures have shown that the persons with insecure attachment styles have a higher incidence of lifetime illicit substance use, which could be mediated by perceived social support. In addition, WHO promotes a common framework, the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF), to describe health-related status in humans, which emphasizes the importance of "Activity and Participation" since 2001. However, there are few researches discussing related issues. As occupational therapists concern activity participation in their clients, the purpose of the study is to investigate the relationships among attachment style, social support and activity participation in persons with illicit drug dependence. Specifically, the impact of drug dependence on participation profile, including duration, frequency, setting and perceived purpose of participation, as well as subjective feelings while participation will be discussed.

Methods: This study will be implemented during August 2009 to December 2009, and estimated 150 adult participants who conform to the DSM-IV drug dependence criteria will be recruited from psychiatry outpatient department. The instruments of investigation will be included Beck Depression Inventory-II, Activity Participation and Restriction Questionnaire, Addiction Severity Index, Interpersonal Support Evaluation List and Adult Attachment Interview.

Results: Data analysis of this study will be completed in January 2010. Multiple regression and Pearson correlation will be conducted to analyze the related variables and the relationships among attachment style, social support and activity participation.

Conclusion: Results of the study will be served as evidence of relationships among attachment style, social support and activity participation. More interpretations such as profiles of activity participation will be provided at the Conference.

Contribution to the practice/evidence base of occupational therapy: For OT practice, these findings will help to conduct clinical reasoning and affect therapeutic strategies.