

The application of situational assessment in mental health vocational rehabilitation model

Tzyh-Chyang Chang¹, Yuh Jang², Yu-Lin Liao¹, Tan-Ya Yau³, Joseph Jrer-Serk Cheng¹

¹*Bali Psychiatric Center, Bali, Taipei Country, Taiwan,* ²*School of Occupational Therapy, National Taiwan University, Taipei, Taiwan,* ³*Department of Occupational Therapy, Taoyuan, Taiwan*

Objectives: The purposes of this study were to develop the effective appropriate situational assessment tool and to establish the appropriate mental health vocational rehabilitation model.

Methods: There were 31 participants aged from 18 to 53 years in this study. All participants with mental illness were from one vocational evaluation center for individual with disabilities and spent 3 days to complete the 20 items related to work behaviors in the situational assessment. All results and applications were discussed in this study.

Results: All participants got vocational rehabilitation services after situational assessment: 3 participants were employed, 7 participants in supportive employment, 11 participants in sheltered employment, 10 participants in other programs related to mental health vocational rehabilitation.

After participants completed the situational assessment three months later, we found that there are 5 participants' current situations are not consistent with vocational evaluation suggestion, and they have work behavior problems when they work. Follow all of these 5 participants work behavior problems, it can be found and identified by the situational assessment, such as work endurance, communication ability, attention, cooperation, frustration, problem solving, work safety and work environment.

In the results of 12 job coaches satisfaction questionnaires, all they expressed they were satisfied with the results of situational assessment. All the job coaches agreed that the situational assessment can provide more information in this study about psychiatric participants' work characteristic and behaviors in this mental health vocational rehabilitation model than the traditional vocational evaluation report.

Conclusions: The situational assessment results and discussions of this study can be applied to future mental health vocational rehabilitation model to provide better and more effective rehabilitation services for clients with mental illness.