



iCAHE JC Critical Appraisal Summary

Article/Paper

Sommerseth R, Dysvik E. Health professionals' experiences of person-centered collaboration in mental health care. *Patient Preference and Adherence* 2008;2, 259-269.

Ques No.	Yes	Can't Tell	No	Comments
1	✓			<p>Was there a clear statement of the aims of the research?</p> <p>The primary aim of this paper is to discuss health care professionals' experiences of person-centered collaboration and involvement in mental health rehabilitation and to suggest ways of improving this perspective. Furthermore, the paper explains the supportive systems that are at work throughout the process of rehabilitation.</p>
2	✓			<p>Is a qualitative methodology appropriate?</p> <p>This paper explores experiences and perspectives of health care professionals and qualitative methodology is the most suitable approach for this.</p> <p>Is it worth continuing?</p> <p>YES</p>
3	✓			<p>Was the research design appropriate to address the aims of the research?</p> <p>This study uses a qualitative approach using three focus group interviews with different professional backgrounds such as nurses, social workers, and social pedagogies. In addition, a semi structured in depth interview was conducted with one nurse and one social worker to judge validity.</p>
4	✓			<p>Was the recruitment strategy appropriate to the aims of the research?</p> <p>A purposive sample was used indicating that the composition of informants are based on the researchers' knowledge of the population and how well they can throw light on the research question. The included professionals represented different gender and professional backgrounds and belonged to the same organization</p>

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5	✓		<p>Were the data collected in a way that addressed the research issue?</p> <p>Data was collected in focus groups and with semi structured interviews. The discussions in the focus groups centered on main working tasks and the time spent on these tasks, as well as engagement in multidisciplinary work and the relevance of care. An interview guide was prepared giving the range of topics, and several sub-questions were outlined to support these topics. A questionnaire was delivered on beforehand to collect sociodemographic variables and one item where they should rank their main work tasks.</p> <p>To get a deeper understanding and validate these findings, two more in-depth interviews with respondents explored these issues that emerged from the analysis of the previous focus group interviews and questionnaires.</p> <p>The main topics from the interview guide were procedures for multidisciplinary work, client and family involvement, leadership, laws, and regulations.</p>
6		✓	<p>Has the relationship between researcher and participants been adequately considered?</p> <p>No information has been given on the relationship between the researchers and the participants.</p>
7	✓		<p>Have ethical issues been taken into consideration?</p> <p>All participants were fully informed orally and written instructions were delivered. It was emphasized that voluntary participation was required and that they could leave the program at any time. Information was handled confidentially, and written informed consent was obtained before inclusion. The regional Committee for Medical Research Ethics, Health Region West, Norway approved the study.</p>

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8	✓		<p>Was the data analysis sufficiently rigorous?</p> <p>The focus group interviews were tape-recorded and Transcribed. Then the interviews were read in their entirety to gain a contextual understanding of the participants' experiences. Following this content analysis was performed to identify major themes in the data. The researchers coded independently and then came to consensus on a certain portion of the text prior to finalizing codes. By listening to all the interviews several times, important nuances were discovered by searching for common and distinctive features as well as variations. Data analysis related to the individual interviews followed the same procedure described above.</p>
9	✓		<p>Is there a clear statement of findings?</p> <p>This study demonstrates deficits concerning mental health care on several levels.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A person-centered perspective and involvement still are uncommon. - Multidisciplinary work seems uncommon and only sporadically follows recommendations. - Family support is seldom involved. - Firm leadership and knowledge about laws and regulations seem to not be systematically integrated in daily care. <p>Thus based on the above points, the improvement of a person-centered perspective implies cooperation between different services and levels in mental health care. In order to bring about improvement the health care workers must critically consider their own culture, coordination of competence must be increased, and leadership at an institutional and organizational level must be improved so that scarce rehabilitation resources are used to the optimal benefit of people with a mental illness.</p>
10			<p>How valuable is the research?</p> <p>Consumer to decide based on their interpretation of the study.</p>

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