

Return to Work of Mentally Ill Persons in Germany

A systematic review

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Overview

- Data on Mental Illness in Germany
- Return to Work – Situation in Germany
- Research Question
- Material and Methods
- Findings
- Conclusion



„Mental and behavioural disorders are found in people of all regions, all countries and all societies. They are present in women and men at all stages of the life course. They are present among the rich and poor, and among people living in urban and rural areas” (WHO 2001, 23) .



Data on Mental Illness in Germany

Prevalence

- life-time-prevalence: about 41 percent
- twelve-month-prevalence: about 32 percent

(National Health Survey 1998)



Data on Mental Illness in Germany

Economical Impact

- 236 Billion Euros total costs for illness (2008)
 - 26.7 Billion Euros on mental illness (11.3 percent)
- 57.411 cases of early retirement in 2008
 - average age of early retirement: 47.9 years (2008)



Return to work – Situation in Germany

- no special return to work-concept
- only a few model projects



Research Question

**Which factors determine a successful return to work -
concept for persons with psychological illness in
Germany?**



Material and Methods

- literature databases
- criteria
 - studies analyzing vocational rehabilitation / return to work of mentally ill persons in Germany
 - regarding psychological illness as a whole
 - published in English or German
 - published 1990 to 2009



Findings

1. 277 studies identified
2. 17 matched the criteria



Findings

Promoting Structural Conditions

- participatory management approach
- participation of all persons concerned
- vicinity of rehabilitation support



Findings

Promoting Structural Conditions

- measures adapted to particular needs
- stronger link of vocational and medical rehabilitation
- close link between acute treatment and relapse prophylaxis
- consistent work offers and integration measures



Findings

Promoting Individual Conditions

- education
- aim of the patient
- motivation



Conclusion

- *place and train* instead of *train and place*
- “supported employment”-law in 2008
 - first implementations in 2009
- evaluation



Thank you for listening

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