



**Service Priorities and Programmes
Electronic Presentations**

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To enhance the clinical outcome measurement in a Child & Adolescent Mental Health Ward by using SDQ (Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire- Parent Version)

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Introduction

Our centre provided in-patient service to children aged below 18 who are suffering from developmental disorders and mental disorders. Mean age of patients was 13 and their length of stay was 5-6 weeks. Top 3 diagnosis: ADHD (29%), Mood problem (17%), ASD (12%). There was no existing system to evaluate the care of our service during hospitalization. The Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire- Parent Version (SDQ-P) has long been widely used as economical, evidence-based and culturally robust assessment tool to identify children at high risk of psychiatric disorders in clinical and epidemiological studies. Based on the strong empirical support of SDQ-P for clinical assessment and outcome evaluation, our centre conducted a pilot project to apply the SDQ-P to develop the evaluating system for sustainable improvement on care.

Objectives

To evaluate the clinical outcome in a Child & Adolescent Mental Health Ward. To guide the treatment plan.

Methodology

The project was endorsed in the department meeting. The pilot project implemented from 15.10.2013 to 31.12.2013. Parent had to complete the SDQ-P upon patient's admission as pre-assessment. Parents had to complete the post SDQ-P at their 1st OPD follow up.

Result

Total 7 cases were evaluated during that period. Demographic data: 5 male 2 female
Average age: 12 Average Length of Stay: 19 day Comparison of pre- & post-SDQ
result: Mean total difficulties score: ↓ 23 (abnormal) to 18.29 (abnormal) Mean

emotional symptoms score: ↓ 6.42 (abnormal) to 4.43 (borderline) Mean conduct problem score: ↓ 4.71 (abnormal) to 3.57 (abnormal) Mean hyperactivity/ inattention score: ↓ 7.14 (abnormal) to 5.86 (borderline) Mean peer relationship problem score: ↓ 4.71 (abnormal) to 4.43 (abnormal) Mean prosocial behaviour score: ↑ 5.43 (borderline) to 5.71 (normal) There is improvement on mean emotional symptoms score, mean hyperactivity/ inattention score and mean peer relationship problem score during hospitalization. Applying SDQ-P not only helps to understand the burden faced by the parents and their expectation towards the care, but also helps to deliver care, reflect the care progress of the patient and evaluate the provided care. As our sample size is small and it suggested further continuing the pilot project.