



**Service Priorities and Programmes**  
**Electronic Presentations**

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**Report on vocational outcomes of persons recovering from mental illnesses in a Career Planning and Counseling (CPC) program**

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**Introduction**

Employment failure has been a historically intractable problem for persons recovering from mental illnesses. Local survey found that their employability in competitive employment was reported to be as low as 30%. Our 13-day Career Planning and Counseling (CPC) program aims to equip them with adequate active job acquisition, self-management skills to render vocational support once job placed in competitive employment.

**Objectives**

To report the vocational outcomes of participants who had completed the Career Planning and Counseling (CPC) programs in the period from October 2012 – September 2013.

**Methodology**

Descriptive statistics analysis was employed. Data such as diagnosis, job tenure, mean salary and job nature was collected as at 17.1.2014.

**Result**

The employment rate for graduates of the CPC programs was 54% (65/120), counting end date will originally be on 31.3.2014. 69.2% of them were diagnosed with schizophrenia spectrum disorder and 13.8% of them were diagnosed with neurosis. For their job details, 40% (26/65) had had the full-time jobs with mean salary \$7080 and 60% (39/65) had had the part-time jobs with mean salary \$3347. For their job tenure, 25% (16/65) had worked for more than six months. The mean job tenure was 146 days for the full-time jobs and was 102 days for the part-time jobs. Conclusions: This report found that the successful employment rate of the graduates from our CPC programs (54%) was much higher when compared to the employability of persons recovering from mental illnesses in local survey (30%). The Career Planning and Counseling (CPC) program was effective for persons recovering mental illnesses to get and sustain competitive employment.