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Recovery Group Participation Scale (RGPS): Factor Structure in Alcohol and Heroin Recovery Populations

Abstract

Recovery group participation is relevant to both clinical and research activity. Its measurement with the Recovery Group Participation Scale (RGPS) is an attempt to have a measurement of participation across a range of recovery groups. The factor structure, among other psychometric properties of the scale, is however, undefined. The present study examined the factor structure and the internal consistency of the RGPS in alcohol and drug recovery populations in Birmingham and Glasgow, United Kingdom. Participants from the Birmingham (n=219) and Glasgow (n=205) recovery studies who had a completed form of the RGPS formed the basis for the factor structure examination. Principal component analysis (PCA) extracted one factor, which

accounted for 39.3% and 67.4% in the Birmingham and the Glasgow samples respectively. Overall score on the RGPS were associated with higher quality-of-life scores and with greater self-esteem and social networks of nonusers in recovery. The key question that remains to be addressed is the evolving role of recovery group participation in prospective studies of growth of recovery capital and sustained recovery.

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