

Establishment of a Norwegian health registry of occupational rehabilitation

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Introduction

Yearly, about 2000 patients participate in vocational rehabilitation/return to work programs in Norway, but systematic evaluations of the results are missing. The National Advisory unit on Occupational Rehabilitation (NK-ARR) therefore sought to establish a health registry of occupational rehabilitation with the main purpose to improve the quality of the course of treatment for occupational rehabilitation

Methods

Development

In collaboration with six rehabilitation institutions*, NK-ARR developed the health registry of treatment results of occupational rehabilitation (KAR) between 2015 - 2017. The group defined the content of the registry and developed and pilot tested four questionnaires for data collection.

Population

The participants in the registry are consent competent adults in working age (18 years or older) taking part in occupational rehabilitation programs and are recruited by the participating institutions.

Data collection and storage

All information in the registry is stored at the "Service for sensitive data" (TSD) at the University of Oslo, Norway. The data is collected by the participating institution and the information is sent to the registry at TSD by means of the data collection tool "Nettskjema".

The registry content

KAR contains personal data from the consenting patients and background data of the participating institutions and of the rehabilitation programs. The personal information are composed of data from four time points: before- and after rehabilitation and 6 and 12 months follow-up. Personal information are age, gender, education, health, diagnosis, sick-leave, working-conditions, work ability and financial aid schemes.

Results

The registry was opened in April present year and receives currently data from eight rehabilitation centres and consists of information from 126 participants.

Discussion and conclusion

The data will be analysed and the results presented aggregated on yearly basis by NK-ARR. The participating institutions can use the data from own institution for development and research purposes.

Data in the registry can be lent by research organisations for research purposes.

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