A CQI Project on Enhancing Employability of Persons in Recovery (PIRs)

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Introduction
Regarding to the current rehabilitation practices for In-patients, they would be discharged as soon as possible to shorten their length of hospitalization & to limit institutionalization. As a result, many Persons In Recovery (PIRs) with potential to resume worker roles might not be able to receive timely and appropriate service on vocational rehabilitation even though they had good potential to resume a worker role after discharge. To bridge this service gap, a project on enhancing their employability at the point of discharge with tracing and follow-up vocational services to PIRs with positive vocational motivation to look for jobs was initiated.

Objectives
(1) To identify PIRs with potential to resume worker role before D/C  
(2) To ensure timely follow up vocational services rendered to discharged in-patients before they landed for first appointment at the SOPD and are referred back to OT again as out-patients in the SOPD

Methodology
(1) The project will tag all cases before discharge with “Positive” or “Ambivalent” responses reported on tailor made “Screening Form”  
(2) Telephone calls will be made to trace these tagged cases to participate in the “Employability Enhancement Services”, i.e. Job Matching to open job market of the KCH employers' network; the Employment Retraining Board (ERB) Course in KCH; further referrals to Integrated Vocational Rehabilitation Services (IVRS) mainly of Baptist Oi Kwan Social Service, New Life Psychiatric Rehabilitation Association, Hong Kong Mental Health Association & Caritas in response to specific job related training programs  
(3) Timely vocational rehabilitation will be rendered for 30 tagged PIRs to enhance their employability

Result
(1) 30 PIRs were successfully tagged and 14 PIRs were able to secure jobs (5 full time job and 9 part time job), 4 PIRs preferred to find job by themselves after interviews, 7 of them were waiting for suitable SE jobs to match their interests, 1 of them was waiting for ERB course and 4 PIRs were suggested to attend vocational
rehabilitation service at OTD to enhance their work readiness. (2) 9 of them were through the “Job Finder” of the SE Service, 1 of them was OE after ERB course, 3 of them were OE after vocational counselling and 1 of them was SE after referring to IVRS. (3) As at 31th Dec 2015, the duration of employment was 67 days and the salary was $9586 (full time job) and $3885 (part time job) respectively. (4) This CQI Project on enhancing employability of PIRs after discharge was a practical way to provide a seamless continual vocational rehabilitation service in improving vocational outcomes.