

Effectiveness of Work-Related Social Skill Training for People with Schizophrenia by Adopting Errorless Learning Approach – A Pilot Study

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Introduction

Social skill is a significant predictor for employment outcome. Nowadays, work-related social skills training is commonly embedded in comprehensive vocational rehabilitation programs to assist people with schizophrenia to equip with essential skills necessary for work. However, neurocognitive impairment is relatively universal among people with schizophrenia. There is good evidence that cognitive factors including attention, memory, and executive function have influenced on the performance in social skills training. Thus, we developed a work-related social skills training program using the errorless learning approach to minimize the demands on cognitive capacity such that most of the participants could benefit from the training.

Purpose of the Project

To investigate the effectiveness of a work-related social skills training program by adopting errorless learning approach for people with schizophrenia.

Material & Method

Randomized waitlist control method was adopted. Thirty participants with schizophrenia as primary diagnosis, CMMSE score above 21, and GAF score in between 31-60, were recruited from hospital setting and out-patient clinic. Participants were randomly assigned to either a treatment group or a waitlist control condition. The treatment condition involved ten 60-minutes weekly sessions, which included training in basic social skills, communication skills, and assertiveness. Measurements at baseline and 10-weeks were adopted by Communication Skills Questionnaire and Chinese Work Personality Profile.

Results

The pilot results on the effectiveness of the work-related social skills training program will be presented.

Conclusions

To be discussed.

