

# INPLASY PROTOCOL

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**Review Stage at time of this submission:** Formal screening of search results against eligibility criteria.

**Conflicts of interest:**  
None declared.

## INTRODUCTION

**Review question / Objective:** What are the barriers that people with psychiatric disorders face in obtaining and maintaining employment?

## Barriers to employment in people with psychiatric disorders - A systematic review

Sree Sivaranjani, C<sup>1</sup>; Praveen, SG<sup>2</sup>.

**Review question / Objective:** What are the barriers that people with psychiatric disorders face in obtaining and maintaining employment?

**Eligibility criteria:** **INCLUSION CRITERIA-** Adults diagnosed with Psychiatric disorders. Employment status- unemployed , supported employment program, return to work. Study aims- To investigate (one or more) modifiable factors or obstacles ( individual or environmental) influencing job acquisition ( e.g., factors on which we can intervene). Type of study included- Qualitative study. Articles available in full text and written in English, Articles with an appropriate study design for research question, Articles which are published and peer reviewed are included in the study. **EXCLUSION CRITERIA-** Unpublished articles. Data from presentations, conference proceedings, non peer reviewed research literature, dissertations and thesis were excluded.

**INPLASY registration number:** This protocol was registered with the International Platform of Registered Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis Protocols (INPLASY) on 13 April 2023 and was last updated on 13 April 2023 (registration number INPLASY202340042).

**Rationale:** People with mental health conditions are typically the last hired and first fired. Participating in productive activities like engaging in employment has been identified as the major life task from early adulthood till the end of late adulthood.

WHO identified psychiatric disorders as one of the disability population around the world and hence the vocational rehabilitation or work rehabilitation has assumed increasing importance for the people with psychiatric disorders.

If the rehabilitation intervention have to improve client skills and supports, it is important that rehabilitation assessment should evaluate clients past and present to determine the present needs.

Psychiatric patients are known to face much more significant barriers to obtain employment than do people with other disabilities. It is a need to identify the barriers for employment in people with psychiatric disorders to rehabilitate them. This review aims to analyze the barriers to obtain and maintain the employment.

**Condition being studied:** Adults diagnosed with Psychiatric Disorders.

## METHODS

**Search strategy:** <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/>- studies published in electronic databases such as, PubMed, Google Scholar, Medline, Research gate , Cochrane collaboration, PsycINFO.

**Participant or population:** Adults who are diagnosed with any Psychiatric Disorder.

**Intervention:** Not applicable.

**Comparator:** Not applicable.

**Study designs to be included:** Qualitative design.

**Eligibility criteria:** INCLUSION CRITERIA- Adults diagnosed with Psychiatric disorders. Employment status- unemployed , supported employment program, return to work. Study aims- To investigate (one or more) modifiable factors or obstacles ( individual or environmental) influencing job acquisition ( e.g., factors on which we can intervene). Type of study included- Qualitative study. Articles available in full text and written in English, Articles with an appropriate study design for research

question, Articles which are published and peer reviewed are included in the study. EXCLUSION CRITERIA- Unpublished articles. Data from presentations, conference proceedings, non peer reviewed research literature, dissertations and thesis were excluded.

**Information sources:** Using electronic databases : PubMed, Medline, Google Scholar, Research Gate, Cochrane Collaboration , PsycINFO for searching and downloading relevant articles.

**Main outcome(s):** The outcome measures includes the barriers for employment , job retention, return to work.

**Data management:** Microsoft Excel used to record and manage the data.

**Quality assessment / Risk of bias analysis:** The Joanna Briggs Checklist for Qualitative Research is used in this review.

**Strategy of data synthesis:** Titles and or abstracts of articles resulting from the search will be screened independently by the reviewers to identify the inclusion criteria. Screening of the studies will be conducted against predefined eligibility criteria. Articles will be retrieved and reviewed in full by the reviewers. Each step of the selection process will be outlined in a PRISMA- style flow chart using excel spread sheet.

**DATA EXTRACTION:** Descriptive characteristics( age, sex, education, and place of living, diagnosis, employment) ; Source(author, year) ; Participants, Study Design, Methods, Sample size, Outcome measures( employment status, job retention) ; Key findings related to employment barriers.

**Subgroup analysis:** Not planned.

**Sensitivity analysis:** Thematic analysis.

**Language restriction:** English.

**Country(ies) involved:** India.

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**Keywords:** Employment, Employment supported, Return to work, Psychiatric disorders, Mental disorders, Mental Illness.

**Dissemination plans:** Plan to publish the review after completion.

**Contributions of each author:**

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