

Canadian Working Group on HIV and Rehabilitation (CWGHR)

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Disabilities Initiatives



Canadian Working Group on HIV and Rehabilitation

Groupe de travail canadien sur le VIH et la réinsertion sociale

Overview



- Background
- Initiatives
- HIV and Employment
- Conceptual Framework to Enhance Labour Force Participation

Background



- People with HIV living longer — more disabling conditions
- Increased need for rehabilitation
- Rehabilitation as process, programs and/or services that promote improved quality of life, physical & mental health, income security, & social inclusion, including psychosocial & vocational supports
- Rehabilitation care providers not trained in HIV

What is CWGHR?



- National, multi-sector, not for profit, organization formed in 1998
- Addresses rehabilitation issues in the context of HIV/AIDS
- Centred on the needs of people living with HIV/AIDS

Background, cont'd



- People living with HIV not aware of potential benefits of rehabilitation
- Multi-sector, interdisciplinary approach
- Membership — people living with HIV, community based organizations, health care providers (physicians, nurses, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, speech therapists, etc); people living with other disabilities (e.g. cancer, MS, arthritis)

Background, cont'd.



- Membership (continued) - government (disability insurance programs, AIDS programs, disability programs, etc.), private insurance companies, employers, human resource professionals, vocational rehabilitation counselors, etc.

CWGHR's Vision



- The daily lives of people living with HIV are improved in direct and meaningful ways by rehabilitation care, support and services.

CWGHR's Mission



- Bridging the traditionally separate worlds of HIV, disability and rehabilitation
- Promoting quality of life through rehabilitation research, education and cross-sector partnerships

CWGHR Initiatives



- Educational activities
- Episodic disabilities - HIV similar to other “lifelong, episodic” conditions — i.e. with alternating periods of illness and wellness (e.g. Multiple sclerosis, arthritis, diabetes, lupus, some forms of cancer, mental illness, etc).

HIV and Employment



- 2005 survey of HR professionals
- 2007 consultation with consumers on a national network on employment issues
 - Is there interest?
 - How would consumers best want to communicate?
- 2008 early development of national network
 - Guided by advisory ctte of consumers



Development of a Conceptual Framework to Enhance Labour Force Participation for People Living with HIV in Canada



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of Toronto

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Project Team



- Catherine Worthington, PhD: Associate Professor, Faculty of Social Work, University of Calgary
- Elisse Zack: Executive Director, Canadian Working Group on HIV and Rehabilitation
- Kelly O'Brien: Post Doctoral Fellow, McMaster University
- Eileen McKee: Project Manager, Canadian Working Group on HIV and Rehabilitation
- Brent Oliver: Research Coordinator

Project Objectives



- To identify key factors related to labour force participation for people living with HIV in Canada, as well as gaps in knowledge, from the existing literature.
- To develop a labour force participation conceptual framework, consisting of facilitators and barriers of participation and key components to include in a labour force participation intervention from the perspective of people living with HIV, employers, insurers and policy makers.

Phase I: Scoping Review



- Search Strategy
- Review Abstracts & Full Documents for Study Inclusion
- Collating, Summarizing and Reporting the Results
- Summary of Evidence on Labour Force Participation for People Living with HIV

Phase II: Framework Development



- Key Informant Interviews
- Focus Groups
- Research Outcome
 - Framework outlining the facilitators and barriers of return from the perspective of people living with HIV, employers, insurers and policy makers.
 - Recommendations from this framework will include key components to comprise an innovative income support and labour force intervention for people living with HIV.

Contact



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THANK YOU

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