

Inter Rater Reliability of Recovery Capital: Assessment of a Clinician Rated Measure

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Recovery Capital is a description of a person's personal, financial, social, and cultural resources that are important to help that person recover from alcohol and other drug problems. Recovery capital includes physical, mental and emotional well-being; employment, accommodation and financial security; education, family and social connection. This study intended to establish the extent to which a Clinician rated measure of recovery capital produces consistent and reliable results when used by different clinicians who work in the mental health field. The study also intended to gain feedback about the usability of the measure. This study investigated the inter rater reliability for the Clinician Recovery Capital Measure as a tool to assess recovery capital for clients with alcohol and other drug problems. Professionals who had a relevant university degree and professional/practical experience with mental health clients participated by assessing standardised case notes using the Clinician Recovery Capital Measure. Data were analysed for total recovery capital as well as the subcategories of social, human, cultural and physical capital. The measures demonstrated excellent levels of inter rater reliability (ie consistency between raters) for total recovery capital and a number of the subscales. The results demonstrate that the Clinician Recovery Capital Measure can be reliably coded by a range of mental health practitioners in an Australian clinical context. This study is an important step in the development of the clinician recovery capital measure and the process of operationalising recovery, although future research is needed to assess its usefulness and validity.