Standardized vs. non-standardized assessments

September 5, 2012

Hi all,

I am an OT working in a medium secure unit. A project in supporting forensic service users in finding employment in the community has recently started in our service. We have been discussing whether to use standardized or non-standardized assessments. My view was to use standardized assessment particularly WRI however there was a strong argument that a self-designed vocational profile should be used even though the employment expert would use a similar vocational assessment.

I would be grateful if anyone could please give their views, comments, suggestions or give literatures on how I would support my position in using standardized assessments in this employment project.

Kind regards,
Miriam

September 5, 2012

Miriam,

WRI is a valid and reliable tool. Standardized is a broad term that can encompass features that are not part of the MOHO assessment system (i.e., norm-based reference scores).

As for your decision to use a psychometrically tested tool versus one that may not have as much evidence, this is a personal decision, as well as one that is probably opined by your immediate clinical setting.

Renee Taylor