

Housing Support for Adults With Mental Illness

Program description:

This group of studies evaluated the effects of housing supports for mentally ill adults at risk of homelessness. A common theme underlying housing support programs for mentally ill adults is the concurrent provision of housing assistance plus support services such as health care, mental health treatment, and substance abuse treatment.

Typical age of primary program participant: 30

Typical age of secondary program participant: N/A

Meta-Analysis of Program Effects

Outcomes Measured	Primary or Secondary Participant	No. of Effect Sizes	Unadjusted Effect Sizes (Random Effects Model)			Adjusted Effect Sizes and Standard Errors Used in the Benefit-Cost Analysis					
			ES	SE	p-value	First time ES is estimated			Second time ES is estimated		
						ES	SE	Age	ES	SE	Age
Crime	P	2	-0.04	0.07	0.53	-0.01	0.07	30	-0.01	0.14	34
Hospitalization (general)	P	4	-0.19	0.06	0.00	-0.13	0.06	31	-0.13	0.11	41

Benefits and costs were not estimated for housing programs.

Discount Rates Applied to the Meta-Analysis

Type of Discount	Discount Rate
1- Less well-implemented comparison group or observational study, with some covariates.	0.5
2- Well-implemented comparison group design, often with many statistical controls.	0.5
3- Well-done observational study with many statistical controls (e.g., IV, regression discontinuity).	0.75
4- Random assignment, with some RA implementation issues.	0.75
5- Well-done random assignment study.	1.00
Program developer = researcher	0.5
Unusual (not "real world") setting	0.5
Weak measurement used	0.5

Studies Used in the Meta-Analysis

- Culhane, D. P., Metraux, S., & Hadley, T. (2002). Public service reductions associated with placement of homeless persons with severe mental illness in supportive housing. *Housing Policy Debate*, 13(1), 107-163.
- Lipton, F. R., Nutt, S., & Sabatini, A. (1988). Housing the homeless mentally ill: A longitudinal study of a treatment approach. *Hospital & Community Psychiatry*, 39(1), 40-45.
- Rosenheck, R., Kasprow, W., Frisman, L., & Liu-Mares, W. (2003). Cost-effectiveness of supported housing for homeless persons with mental illness. *Archives of General Psychiatry*, 60(9), 940-951.
- Sadowski, L. S., Kee, R. A., VanderWeele, T. J., & Buchanan, D. (2009). Effect of a housing and case management program on emergency department visits and hospitalizations among chronically ill homeless adults: A randomized trial. *JAMA*, 301(17), 1771-1778.
- Shern, D. L., Felton, C. J., Hough, R. L., Lehman, A. F., Goldfinger, S., Valencia, E., & Wood, P. A. (1997). Housing outcomes for homeless adults with mental illness: Results from the second-round McKinney Program. *Psychiatric Services*, 48(2), 239-241.