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Social support in recovery former users of psychoactive substances in Montenegro: A survey study

Grbović Ena, Mugoša Boban

Introduction: Social support can be a very powerful and beneficial force in the recovery process. Aim: Research of social support as an important component in the process of resocialization of former users of psychoactive substances, so far, has been neglected in Montenegro. However, one of the conditions for quality analysis whose outcome would involve examining of deeper causal relationships is examining of social support structure of the respondents. That is why the main goal of paper is to determine precisely dimension of social support, and its factorability. A special sub-aim is to identify latent structure of emotional support as specific dimension within the social support scale. Methods: The survey was conducted with 107 clients treated in the Public Institution for accommodation, rehabilitation and resocialization of users of psychoactive substances Podgorica (Montenegro) from May 2014 to October 2016. Multidimensional Social Support Scale (MSPSS) is used, which consists of 12 variables that measure three components of support: family, friends and significant others. The analysis of the main components with direct oblimin rotation was used to examine the factorability of MSPSS. After factor analysis is conducted, the reliability of the determined scale was tested by Cronbach alpha coefficient through discriminatory validity. Results: All three components show statistically significant results ($p < .05$). The correlation between Friends and Significant Other is .510, while between Significant Other and Family it scored .617. On the other hand, the correlation between Significant Other and Family is .525, as we have assumed and as previous results in this area suggest there is a significant link between the Friends and Family components. 85.1% of the respondents stated that social support is important (or extremely important) in process of rehabilitation and resocialization. Conclusion: Survey emphasize the important role of the family in the life of the respondents is observed. Social support has many benefits and it is often crucial to establishing successful recovery former users of psychoactive substances.

Keywords: social support, recovery, former users of psychoactive substances, the Multidimensional scale of perceived social support (MSPSS)

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