

**EVALUATION OF SOCIAL SKILL TRAINING
PROGRAMME TO IMPROVE THE COMMUNICATION
SKILLS OF PATIENTS WITH SCHIZOPHRENIA**

Tamanna Afroz

4th Year, B.Sc. (Honours) in Occupational Therapy
University of Dhaka

BANGLADESH HEALTH PROFESSIONS INSTITUTE (BHPI)

(The Academic Institute of CRP)

Savar, Dhaka- 1343, Bangladesh

July 2008

ABSTRACT

This research was conducted to evaluate a social skills training program to improve communication skills for patients with schizophrenia. The purpose of the study was whether a social skills training group improve communication skills of patient with schizophrenia for better participation in society or not. This study was first time study for occupational therapists in Bangladesh conducting social skills training program. A single group time series designed was used in study to the effectiveness of the program. Eighteen participants were selected from NIMH through simple random sampling. Groups were administered for two times in same context and a pre-test and three post-tests were conducted to collect data. Social skills questionnaire scale (SSQS) was used in data collection. Statistical analysis related t test was used in data analysis. Data were compared in constraint of time. Two post-tests were conducted after administering first and second time programmes and one post test was conducted without treatment between the interval two groups. Data were compared between the tests to find out significant difference of communication skills score over time. Participants significantly improved in communication skills after administering social skills group. So a structured social skills programme offer better communication skills for the patients with schizophrenia.

Key words: Social skills, Social skills training, Communication skills, Schizophrenia and Occupational therapy.