

# Placement Budgets for supported employment - improving competitive employment for people with mental illness

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| <b>Submission date</b><br>16/11/2011   | <b>Recruitment status</b><br>No longer recruiting             | <input type="checkbox"/> Prospectively registered    |
| <b>Registration date</b><br>30/11/2011 | <b>Overall study status</b><br>Completed                      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Protocol         |
| <b>Last Edited</b><br>06/08/2019       | <b>Condition category</b><br>Mental and Behavioural Disorders | <input type="checkbox"/> Statistical analysis plan   |
|  |   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Results          |
|  |   | <input type="checkbox"/> Individual participant data |

## Plain English summary of protocol

### Background and study aims

People with severe mental illness should have access to competitive employment in order to improve their chances of social integration. At present the most successful approach is supported employment, where a job coach helps patients to find competitive employment as soon as possible, corresponding to their wishes, and continues to support them, so that jobs can be held down as long as possible. Studies have found that the goal of taking up employment within 2 months is rarely achieved. The aim of this study is to find out whether limiting the number of working hours the job coach spends finding a job for each patient (the placement budget) leads to a faster take up of competitive employment. If this is true, the job coach could invest more working hours supporting the patient on the job and his/her employer.

### Who can participate?

Patients of working age (18-60) undergoing treatment in one of the six participating outpatient psychiatric clinics, who have been unemployed for 12 months and are looking for competitive employment.

### What does the study involve?

Participants are randomly allocated to one of three set placement budgets (either 25, 40 or 55 hours with the job coach). They are supported by a job coach for a maximum of 2 years. As part of this process an interview lasting about one hour takes place upon entering the study and every six months thereafter, regardless of whether the participant is still in the job coaching or not. The questioning of the participants therefore stretches over a period of 3 years.

### What are the possible benefits and risks of participating?

Not provided at time of registration.

### Where is the study run from?

Six outpatient psychiatric clinics in the Canton of Zurich (Switzerland).

When is the study starting and how long is it expected to run for?  
June 2010 to May 2014.

Who is funding the study?  
The Zurich Program for Sustainable Development of Mental Health Services (ZInEP).

Who is the main contact?  
Dr Carlos Nordt

## Contact information

**Type(s)**  
Scientific

**Contact name**  
Dr Carlos Nordt

**Contact details**  
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Zurich  
Switzerland  
8032

## Additional identifiers

## Study information

**Scientific Title**  
Placement Budgets for supported employment - improving competitive employment for people with mental illness: a randomized controlled trial

**Study objectives**

1. The more limited the amount of working hours of a job coach to find a job (limited placement budget) the faster a placement in the open, competitive employment. If this is true, the job coach could invest more working hours to support the patient on the job and his/her employer.
2. Reveal factors for fast job placement and long-term job tenure. Primary issues are motivation, stigmatization, social network and social support, quality of life, job satisfaction, financial situation, and health conditions. Neuro-cognitive tests will be conducted to control confounding variables.

**Ethics approval required**  
Old ethics approval format

**Ethics approval(s)**  
Zurich Cantonal Ethics Committee (CEC), Division 3 (Kantonale Ethik-Kommission Zürich (KEK) Abteilung 3), 30/09/2009, ref E-51/2009

**Study design**

Multicentre randomized controlled trial

**Primary study design**

Interventional

**Study type(s)**

Quality of life

**Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied**

Mental illness

**Interventions**

Supported Employment according to the IPS (Individual Placement and Support) model, randomizing the patients to three different placement budgets of 25h, 40h, or 55h working hours of the job coaches. Supported Employment lasts two years for those who find a job. The intervention ends if the placement budgets run out for those who didn't find a competitive employment.

**Intervention Type**

Other

**Phase**

Not Applicable

**Primary outcome(s)**

Time between study inclusion and first competitive employment that lasted 3 months or longer

**Key secondary outcome(s)**

1. Motivation
2. Stigmatization
3. Social network and social support
4. Quality of life
5. Job satisfaction
6. Financial situation
7. Health conditions

Measured at baseline (t0) and every six months thereafter (t1-t6)

**Completion date**

31/05/2014

**Eligibility****Key inclusion criteria**

1. Current treatment in one of the six participating outpatient psychiatric clinics
2. Twelve months unemployment and no program of vocational integration over the last three months
3. Motivation to work in competitive employment

4. Working age (18-60 years)
5. Resident in the canton of Zurich
6. Willing and capable of giving informed consent

**Participant type(s)**

Patient

**Healthy volunteers allowed**

No

**Age group**

Adult

**Lower age limit**

18 years

**Upper age limit**

60 years

**Sex**

All

**Total final enrolment**

116

**Key exclusion criteria**

1. Severe organic illness (ICD-10, F0)
1. Insufficient knowledge of German

**Date of first enrolment**

01/06/2010

**Date of final enrolment**

31/05/2014

**Locations****Countries of recruitment**

Switzerland

**Study participating centre**

Psychiatric University Hospital Zurich  
Zurich  
Switzerland  
8032

**Sponsor information**

## Organisation

Department of Health Canton Zurich (Gesundheitsdirektion Kanton Zürich) (Switzerland)

## ROR

<https://ror.org/038jmw351>

## Funder(s)

### Funder type

Government

### Funder Name

Department of Health Canton Zurich (Gesundheitsdirektion Kanton Zürich) (Switzerland)

## Results and Publications

### Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan

### IPD sharing plan summary

Not provided at time of registration

### Study outputs

| Output type                      | Details       | Date created | Date added | Peer reviewed? | Patient-facing? |
|----------------------------------|---------------|--------------|------------|----------------|-----------------|
| <a href="#">Results article</a>  | results       | 19/07/2019   | 06/08/2019 | Yes            | No              |
| <a href="#">Protocol article</a> | protocol      | 04/10/2012   |            | Yes            | No              |
| <a href="#">Study website</a>    | Study website | 11/11/2025   | 11/11/2025 | No             | Yes             |