

Review of: "The Effect of Group-Based Family Orientation to Community Mental Health Services"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

This study shows that an Initial Group Session (IGS) as part of recovery-focused treatment can obtain a greater reduction in admission rates and cumulative lengths of stay. This is a practical study that may lead to sharing limited service resources among patients who need them.

There are several points to be clarified in this manuscript.

1. The authors should clearly describe who specifically approached the patient's family and how they did in the IGS.
Adequate references that detail the IGS should be cited.
2. The authors need to clarify each of the groups 0-4 in Table 1.
3. In the description for Table 3, it states "the reduction in total (summed) length of stay by each group comparing post to pre-exposed and unexposed groups." In Table 3, only the "Exposed Scheduled group" shows a significant difference (p-value). But, it should be described what it was compared to. In addition, p-values for other groups should be also described.
4. In Table 4, "Admission CGAS," "WCWL-CMH-PCS," and "ACE score" are listed, however, their abbreviations should be spelled out.