Thinking Matters Symposium

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The Role of Motivation and Cognition in Adults with Schizophrenia

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Clinical Question: What is the role of motivation and cognition in the completion of activities of daily living for adults with schizophrenia living in community housing?

Context
The community partner requested evidence based assessments and interventions that address methods of targeting motivation to encourage increased participation in activities of daily living (ADLs) and instrumental activities of daily living (IADLs).

Significance
Adults with schizophrenia have deficits in intrinsic motivation, executive functioning, attention, and working memory.

Targets for Intervention
- Motivation
- Cognition
- Functional Outcomes
- Reward Valuation
- Negative Symptoms

Clinical Bottom Line
- Occupational therapy practitioners can choose assessments and interventions that target deficits in both motivation and cognition when working with adults who have schizophrenia (ie. Cognitive remediation and motivational interviewing).
- Consider assessments and interventions that target deficits in executive functioning.
- Develop interventions that involve social skill training, goal-writing, and/or cognitive retraining to address defeatist attitudes.

References Available Upon Request
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