

Analyzing Employability Using Worker Trait Factors: Past, Present and Future.

McCroskey, B.J. , Streater, S.E., Wattenbarger, W.E., Feldbaum, C., and Dennis, K.

Abstract. The evolution of vocational assessment and worker-trait factor technologies is reviewed, as well as the conclusions to be drawn regarding vocational. Indices of import to vocational experts, from its origins to its current state including the proliferation of software programs based on worker-trait factor methods. Organized historically and by topic, the article presents VDARE as the precursor model from which subsequent systems have emerged. Included is a rare history of the published research and landmark presentations contributing to the reawakening of worker-trait-factor methodology in light of recent innovations in computer technology. The article concludes with a call for vocational experts to join in the research and refinement of an empirically valid worker-trait factor methodology predictive of wage earning capacity and various measures of employment potential.

Rehabilitation Into the Twenty-First Century: Can We Meet the Standards?

Deutsch, P. M.

Abstract. This article focuses upon life care planning and its methodology along with catastrophic case management advances and future outlook. The article is intended to just view into the future of life care planning and case management. A view of past applicable methodologies is presented. Results indicated order out of chaos with more effective planning, and the establishment of databased outcomes. This increased our insights resulting in an organized and consistent method for looking at each disability and for charting specific needs. This offered creative freedom in rehabilitation advancing independence and well being for those with disabilities. Problems among rehabilitation professions developed bringing all rehabilitation professionals to deal with the immediate goals of the future particularly in light of the Daubert decision and its importance in the standards it sets for experts. Directions for the future may point to an overhaul of rehabilitation training programs at university levels, continued decrease in federal funding for training grants, a continued consolidation of federal disability and entitlement programs, the question of third party reimbursement. A look at life care planning and the role of rehabilitation professionals appears to have an impact of health care dollars in the future. For the future, the author states several survival techniques for the rehabilitation professional (i.e., A willingness to establish a personal ethical code and standard of practice that is capable of surviving scrutiny of the medical, legal and insurance arenas; and, a willingness to join in a team approach bringing together multiple rehabilitation perspectives and disciplines to better serve the client).

The Daubert Decision and Its Interaction with the Federal Rules.

Feldbaum, C.

Abstract. The evolving role and mandate professional accountability of the forensic vocational and rehabilitation expert Daubert and its interaction with the revised Federal Rules is reviewed. The transition from Fry's "general acceptance" standard to the multidimensional threshold standard for admissibility of expert testimony is discussed. Daubert's critical interface with the Federal Rule 702 and its distinction of "scientific, technical, and other specialized knowledge" is analyzed in light of the potential strategies of judicial implementation. The author reviews case law after Daubert and the need to develop hybrid standards appropriate to the realities of vocational and rehabilitation forensic practice. The future of forensic practice is addressed, with a call for essential changes, including upgrading methodologies and guiding principles as well as submitting to increased judicial and peer scrutiny, including publication and peer review.

Special Feature Article: Resources for the Forensic Vocational and Rehabilitation Expert.

Leclere, Wendy A.

Abstract. This article presents a useful list of Website addresses (URLs) readily available through the

World Wide Web. They represent a fraction of sites currently online and an even smaller component of the data anticipated to be available online in the coming months and years. To tap into this vast interconnection of people and information, establish a link to the Internet via one of the smaller local Internet providers or with America Online, CompuServe, Microsoft or any number of similar arrangements such as those available under your local server. Prices range from virtually free for academics to a relatively low (\$10.00 to \$20.00) for unlimited monthly access. While getting your feet wet, save a few dollars, use less time, and later change your arrangement in accordance with your needs and growing skills.