Abstract

0.5 to 1% of our fellow countrymen are afflicted by mental illnesses (psychosis) like schizophrenia which is the third most disabling condition, higher than paraplegia and blindness. Another 0.4% approximately suffer from Bipolar Disorder, while 11.2% aged above 65 years suffers from depression. Suicide, it is said, is the most common cause of death in people aged 15-34 years.

Quantitative data show that in India for a population over a billion with 20-30 million in need of mental health services there are about 3500 psychiatrists, 1000 clinical psychologists, and psychiatric social workers respectively and 900 psychiatric nurses only.

Psycho-social services through government setups is totally absent with main stress o the biomedical model with focus on diagnostic labels which add to the stigma despite the fact that research indicates the significance of social determinants in the treatment of mental illnesses.

This study will thereby focus on the importance of psychosocial aspects in rehabilitation and recovery of individuals suffering from psychosis.