

**"Using routine outcome measurement to improve personal care: paving bridges between data and people."**

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Routine outcome monitoring (ROM) involves the collection, aggregation and use of outcome data in routine mental health services. Review of ROM projects around the world shows slow but steady progress towards outcome-oriented mental health systems. Nevertheless, there is still a notable gap between its recognized importance and actual implementation. ROM provides an enormous opportunity, about which little is known yet, to pave bridges between researchers and practitioners, data and people. It has the potential to contribute importantly to various stakeholders including consumers, family members, practitioners, service providers, policy makers and researchers. The presentation will focus primarily on potential ways for data use and briefly review international ROM projects, barriers to dissemination and burning questions regarding what should be assessed, how, by whom, how often and for what purposes.