Combining customer retention and exercise adherence for best results

Contact details

Name author(s): Teresa Hurley

Institution(s) or organisation(s): Waterford Institute of Technology

City and country: Ireland

Email address for correspondence: tehurley@wit.ie

Abstract

The research aims to examine the link between retention strategies and exercise adherence models in the health and fitness industry from a supply and demand perspective. Mail surveys formed the basis of the research which incorporated 210 operators and 100 lapsed members. Preliminary results indicate that less than 52% of operators complete an exit analysis while 54% of lapsed members would rejoin the club exited if invited. A combination of retention strategies and exercise adherence models could prove useful in advancing customer retention in the health and fitness industry and further investigation of this is required.

References

- Biddle, S.J.H., & Nigg, C.R. (2000). Theories of exercise behavior. *International Journal of Sport Psychology*, 32(1), 3-14.
- Carmody, T.P, Senner, J.W., Manuel, R., Malinow, M.R., & Matarazzo, J.D. (1980). *Journal of Behavioral Medicine*, 3(2), June, 163-168.
- Dishman, R.K. (1981). Biological influences on exercise adherence. *Research Quarterly for Exercise and Sport*, 52, 143-159.
- Dishman, R.K. (1991). Increasing and maintaining exercise and physical activity. *Behavior Therapy*, 23, 345-378.
- Dishman, R.K. (1994). Advances in Exercise Adherence. Champaign: Human Kinetics.
- Dishman, R.K. (2001). The problem of exercise adherence: Fighting sloth in nations with market economies, *Quest*, *53*, 279-294.
- Franklin, B.A. (1988). Program factors that influence exercise adherence: Practical adherence skills for the clinical staff. In R. Dishman (Ed.), *Exercise adherence: Its impact on public health* (pp. 237-258). Champaign, IL: Human Kinetics Books.
- Oldridge, N.B. (1984). Compliance and dropout in cardiac exercise rehabilitation. *Journal of Cardiopulmonary Rehabilitation*, 4, 166-177.