

Psychometric Properties of the Chinese Version of Personal Adjustment and Role Skills Scale III for Children with Chronic Illness

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Abstract

Few scales have been proposed to assess the psychosocial adjustment in children with chronic diseases, even though the numbers of children with chronic diseases are gradually rising in Taiwan. Translating a foreign scale that has good psychometric properties is practically important in assessing the psychosocial adjustment of children. The Personal Adjustment and Role Skills Scale III (PARS III) has been widely applied in western societies to assess psychosocial adjustment of children with chronic diseases but without mental retardation. This study translated the English version of PARS III into a Chinese version, and to investigate the psychometric properties of the Chinese PARS III (C-PARS III). The PARS III was translated by a method of repetitive translation. The psychometric properties of the C-PARS III were examined in a survey of 103 caregivers of children with chronic diseases. The C-PARS III was examined through item analysis, through which two items were deleted, to become 26 items. Factor analysis was performed to extract six factors, namely peer relationships, dependency / hostility, depression, productivity, withdrawal and anxiety. These six factors accounted for 61.74% of the total variance. The C-PARS III had good internal consistency with Cronbach's alpha = 0.89, and the Cronbach's alpha of the six subscales ranged from 0.70 to 0.82. The test-retest correlation coefficient was 0.89 within two-week interval. The results of the current study revealed that the translated C-PARS III has good psychometric properties, and that the scale can be utilized to assess children with chronic diseases, as well as in study fields in the future.

Key words: Children with chronic diseases, personal adjustment and role skills scale III, psychometric properties.

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