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Validation and reliability of the Turkish version of the social inclusion scale

Statement of the Problem: It is necessary to evaluate the social inclusion of elderly people in the disadvantaged group in terms of mental health and to take measures for this situation. The aim of this study is to adapt the Social Inclusion Scale (SIS) into the Turkish language and to determine its validity and reliability.

Methodology & Theoretical Orientation: The main version of the SIS was translated into the Turkish language. World Health Organization translation process was used for the linguistic adaptation. A total of 230 elderly people, 65 years and over, were included in the methodological study in Antalya, Turkey. Content validity and factorial construct validity (explanatory and confirmatory factor analysis) were used to test the validity section. To determine the reliability of the Social Inclusion Scale, internal consistency and item analysis were used.

Findings: The Cronbach's alpha of the questionnaire was 0.894, which demonstrated high reliability, and item-total correlations were between .28 and .70. The content validity index was .97, and the 18 items of the SIS loading on three factor varied between .40 and .79, explaining 55.14% of the variance. According to the analysis for logical validity, the score of loneliness scale for the elderly decreases as the score of Social Inclusion Scale increases.

Conclusion & Significance: The Turkish version of the SIS was found to be a reliable and valid tool to define the social inclusion level in the elderly. The scale can be used in the studies on elderly people to determine the social inclusion level.

Recent Publications

1. S Kent L, Shenton J, Spandler H (2009) Development of a measure of social inclusion for arts and mental health project participants. *Journal of Mental Health* 18(1):65-72.
2. Le Boutillier C, Croucher A (2010) Social inclusion and mental health. *British Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 73(3):136-139.
3. Margrove K, Heydinrych K, Secker J. (2013) Waiting list-controlled evaluation of a participatory arts course for people experiencing mental health problems. *Perspectives in Public Health*. 133(1):28-35.
4. Wilson C, Secker J (2015) Validation of the Social Inclusion Scale with students. *Social Inclusion* 3(4):52-62.
5. Cordier R, Milbourn B, Martin R, Buchanan A, Chung D, Speyer R (2017) A systematic review evaluating the psychometric properties of measures of social inclusion. *PLoS One*. 12(6):179109.

Biography

Sebahat Gözüm completed her MSc and PhD in the field of Public Health Nursing at the University of Atatürk, Erzurum, Turkey. She has been Dean of the Faculty of Nursing in Turkey since August 2012. For the past 17 years she has provided dissertation consultancies to over 14 students to improve evidence-based and advanced practice nursing roles. She has published more 65 peer reviewed articles. Her current research interests focus on development of public health nursing, community health, caregivers care, integrative nursing, complementary health approaches, scale adaptation, cancer screening (breast, colorectal, prostate) behaviors, transcultural nursing.

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