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PHOTO-ELICITATION AS AN ADJUNCT TO STRUCTURED INTERVIEWS WHEN ASSESSING IDEAL ROMANTIC AND SEXUAL RELATIONSHIPS

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Purpose: Structured interviews have been used as an assessment tool in clinical and research settings for many years. However, such interviews have limitations, especially when questions are abstract from the daily life experiences of adolescents and young adults (e.g., “What are all the qualities you desire in a romantic partner?”). Accordingly, photo-elicitation was incorporated as a tool into how young women perceive ideal romantic and sexual relationships.

Methods: Participants included 13 African American heterosexual young women (ages 14–17) recruited from the local community in a mid-sized Midwestern city. Young women met with the interviewer once at a private location for approximately 1.5 hours. During the interview, young women were asked to consider their ideal partner by thinking of “someone you could be with in an ideal world.” They were asked to think carefully about what that person might look like, etc. Participants were provided with a 24-item list of qualities representative of an ideal partner. The list utilized ideal traits described in previous research studies (e.g., “cute face,” “supportive,” “certain skin-complexion”). Participants were then handed photographs (N = up to 98) in random order. Photographs were obtained from publicly-available online resources and were purposefully chosen to highlight a range of ethnicities, behaviors and personality attributes of young men (e.g., “African American man smiling,” “interracial couple shopping”). Young women were then asked to identify which ideal partner qualities they observed in each picture. Young women were permitted to state as many or as few items as they desired and they could state any additional partner quality not included on the list. Vague or extensive responses were probed when applicable. At the end of the study, participants provided feedback of their experiences. Interviews were recorded, transcribed and coded using grounded theory.

Results: When evaluating all responses, 5 themes emerged relating to this technique. First, young women were able to quickly identify partner qualities when provided with a photograph. Second, participants rapidly described ideal partner qualities that were not included on the 24-item list. Third, young women articulated elaborate stories about the young men depicted in the pictures, often with minimal to no probing. Fourth, participants indicated that they enjoyed the activity and that it was “easy” to provide the requested information. Fifth, most were able to identify at least one picture that was representative of their ideal partner. Three unexpected and unsolicited findings from this project are noteworthy. Specifically, young women almost unanimously indicated that participating in this study helped them clarify the qualities they desire in an ideal partner. Second, a number of participants revealed elaborate criteria when evaluating the skin complexion of an ideal partner. Finally, participants spoke honestly about their desire for marriage in their future.

Conclusions: Adolescent women were very comfortable conversing openly about ideal romantic and sexual relationships when using photographs as tools. Without incorporation of the photographs, it is questionable how much unsolicited information would have been garnered. Overall, photo-elicitation is a complimentary adjunct to structured interviews with both research and clinical implications.

Sources of Support: T-32 Postdoctoral Training Grant.

104.

THE PROBLEMATIC AND RISKY INTERNET USE SCREENING SCALE (PRIUSS): A NEW TOOL FOR ASSESSING PROBLEMATIC INTERNET USE IN ADOLESCENTS AND YOUNG ADULTS

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Purpose: Problematic Internet Use (PIU) is a growing health concern among adolescents and young adults. Between 4% and 15% of this population may be at risk for PIU. Currently, a validated assessment tool specifically designed for use in adolescents and young adults is lacking. The purpose of this mixed-methods study was to develop and validate an assessment tool for PIU based on the Moreno conceptual framework of PIU among older adolescents.

Methods: In the first phase of the study, scale development, an item pool was developed using concept mapping and a review of the literature and administered to 714 students from two universities between 18 and 25 years of age. Exploratory factor analysis was used to construct the preliminary scale and confirm its reliability. In the second phase of the study, scale validation, the scale was administered to separate sample of students (n = 330) as part of an online survey along with general Internet use questions and measures for a set of theoretically related mental health symptoms. Confirmatory factor analysis was used to confirm the scale's structural validity. Spearman's correlations between the scale and the mental health measures were used to assess construct validity. A risk-based scoring cut-off was estimated using a Bayesian latent class modeling approach to compute a Receiver Operating Characteristic (ROC) curve.

Results: During scale development, the initial pool of 75 items was reduced to an 18-item, three-factor scale that demonstrated strong reliability. Cronbach's alphas for the three subscales were 0.89, 0.90, and 0.88. During scale validation, confirmatory factor analysis for the three-factor model indicated an acceptable fit (GFI = 0.89, RMSEA = 0.07). There was a moderate correlation between the scale and daily recreational Internet use ($r = 0.378$), but not with Internet use for school or work ($r = 0.125$). Moderate correlations were also noted between the scale and measures of theoretically-related mental health symptoms (ADHD: $r = 0.405$, $p < .001$; depression $r = 0.467$, $p < .001$; social phobia $r = 0.470$, $p < .001$). A cut-off of 25 (sensitivity = 0.80, 95% CI: 0.47–0.99; specificity = 0.79, 95% CI: 0.73–0.84) is proposed for identifying those at risk for PIU.

Conclusions: The Problematic and Risky Internet Use Screening Scale (PRIUSS) is a novel assessment tool for PIU specifically designed for use among adolescents and young adults. The 18-item scale has three subscales: Social Consequences, Emotional Consequences, and Risky/Impulsive Internet Use, which assess the core domains of PIU. Based on its strong theoretical foundation and promising psychometric performance, the PRIUSS may be a valuable tool for PIU screening and prevention efforts.

Sources of Support: This study received funding support from the University of Wisconsin-Madison Graduate School.

105.

EVALUATION OF THE TRANSITION READINESS ASSESSMENT QUESTIONNAIRE (TRAQ) IN A YOUNGER ADOLESCENT POPULATION

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Purpose: The Transition Readiness Assessment Questionnaire (TRAQ) is a 29-item measure of readiness for transition from pediatric to adult health care for youth with special health care needs and was initially validated with 192 youth ages 16–26 years in the United States. The purpose of this study was to evaluate the applicability of the TRAQ for a younger adolescent population in Canada.

Methods: Two hundred adolescents ages 12–19 years were recruited from the waiting rooms of four outpatient clinics (Diabetes, Neurology, Gastrointestinal, Cardiology) at BC Children's Hospital, Vancouver for a study of transition measures. During routine clinic appointments participants completed a study package that included a demographics information page, and the TRAQ, the Am I ON TRAC for Adult Care index, two subscales of the Psychosocial Maturity Inventory (PMI) and the Child's Report of Parental Behavior Inventory (CRPBI). This analysis focuses on the psychometric validation of the TRAQ before its possible inclusion within the overall study. A principle components analysis (PCA) with a forced two-factor solution and oblique rotation was performed to confirm the performance of the TRAQ, based on the published conceptual development and its original validation with older adolescents. The same criteria were used to identify significant factors from the original study of the TRAQ: eigenvalues > 1 , the number of factors at which a clear elbow appears in the scree plot, the loading of items within each factor, and the percentage of variance explained by the factors.

Results: The mean age of our participants was 15.3 (SD = 1.9), 57.5% were male, and they were distributed across the clinics, with 36% from diabetes, 27% cardiology, 27% gastroenterology, and 10% neurology. The PCA with a forced two-factor oblique rotation ($n = 161$) yielded a markedly different factor structure from the original TRAQ validation study. The two factors accounted for only 34.1% of the total variance explained, compared to 68% in the original study. The two TRAQ domains, self-management (items 1–16) and self-advocacy (items 17–29) were not reproduced in this sample. Instead, this PCA resulted in 18 items loading on factor one (10–25, 27–29) and eight items loading on factor two (2–9). Item one cross-loaded, and item 26 did not load on either factor. Factor two contained items related to medications and medical equipment, while items in factor one related to general self-care practices. An alternate unconstrained factor analysis generated an eight factor solution, none of which appeared to match the original theorized factors, and which still only explained 63% of the total variance in response.

Conclusions: Given the inability to reproduce the factor structure, the results of this psychometric evaluation raise questions about whether the TRAQ is a suitable measure to evaluate readiness to transition among younger adolescents.

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106.

COLLABORATION PROCESS EVALUATION OF PADRES INFORMADOS/JOVENES PREPARADOS

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Purpose: *Padres Informados, Jovenes Preparados* (Padres) is a family-skills training program designed to prevent tobacco and other substance use among Latino youth (10 to 14 years old). This randomized controlled trial is being implemented through community based participatory research (CBPR) processes. One study aim is to assess

the collaboration among seven community and university partners. In CBPR, the quality of collaboration and organizational capacity for research are contributors to successful study implementation. We developed and administered a survey to all partners at the end of project year one. This presentation describes the development and initial results of the Padres collaboration assessment tool.

Methods: A survey, including quantitative and open-ended questions, was developed. A literature review was conducted and key survey domains identified: collaborative process effectiveness, community and university capacity and readiness for CBPR, organizational characteristics contributing to successful program implementation, and the added value to agencies of participating in CBPR projects. The survey was administered online, descriptive statistical and qualitative content analysis was performed. Participants from seven collaborating agencies (three social service agencies, two clinics, one school, and University Extension site), included executive directors (or similar leaders), organization staff collaborators, and the core collaborative research team ($n = 21$). Collaborative process measures (17 closed-ended questions) focused on project impact, personal engagement, budget transparency, trust within the collaboration, satisfaction with the collaboration, and improved understanding between university/community. Value added from participation in the project (two closed-ended, five open-ended, and two network questions) included: future collaboration, enhanced community networks, perceived likelihood of sustainability, and degree of knowledge transfer/capacity development. Organizational factors and capacity (12 closed-ended, one open-ended questions) were assessed through degree of staff experience, ability to commit staff, leadership support of the project, presence of competing priorities, synergy with organizational goals, willingness to commit resources, organizational characteristics (type and size) and history of collaboration on research.

Results: 78% of project participants responded. Five emergent domains were identified through qualitative analysis of open ended questions: trust and the capacity to work well together, openness, participation, impact, and engagement, sustainability and barriers, and professional and personal gains. Responses to closed-ended questions regarding value added from project participation were variable; three respondents ranked it only somewhat true that their organization would provide the Padres training after project end. Responses to questions regarding organizational factors identified variability in the degree to which respondents felt their organizations identified their work with Padres to be a priority, and supported their time spent on the project.

Conclusions: Evaluation results helped to identify strengths and areas needing improvement in Padres. As a result new venues for communication among collaborators were developed. Data will be collected yearly, and variation between sites will be considered in the final assessment of intervention efficacy. As CBPR approaches become common in clinical trials, this type of assessment of participatory processes is increasingly important.

Sources of Support: None.

107.

IDENTIFYING CLINICALLY MEANINGFUL GROUPS OF ADOLESCENTS BASED ON THEIR ENGAGEMENT IN RISK BEHAVIOURS AND EMOTIONAL HEALTH CONCERNS USING LATENT CLASS ANALYSIS

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