

FUTHER VALIDATION OF THE CHILDREN'S DEPRESSION INVENTORY IN A PORTUGUESE ADOLESCENTS SAMPLE

C. Bento¹, A.T. Pereira², M. Marques^{3,4}, J. Saraiva¹, A. Macedo⁴

¹Clínica Universitária de Pediatria, ²Instituto de Psicologia Médica, Faculdade de Medicina da Universidade de Coimbra,

³Miguel Torga Higher Institute, ⁴Serviço de Psicologia Médica, Faculdade de Medicina da Universidade de Coimbra, Coimbra, Portugal

Introduction: The Children's Depression Inventory (CDI) is a 27-item, symptom-oriented scale for youths aged 7-17. In Portugal some psychometric parameters has never been analyzed before.

Objective: To analyse the reliability and construct and concurrent validity of the CDI in a Portuguese adolescents sample.

Method: 969 adolescents (59.34% girls), aged 15.80 ± 1.51 , answered the Portuguese versions of the CDI and of the Rosenberg Self Esteem Scale (SE). To study the temporal stability, 204 (58.74% girls) respondents answered the questionnaires again after approximately 5 weeks.

Results: CDI mean scores were difference between genders [Girls= 10.84 ± 6.025 vs. Boys: 8.90 ± 6.477 , $p < .001$]. The Cronbach's alpha (α) was .85 for the total sample, .83 for the Girls, and .87 for the Boys. Pearson correlations between the test and the re-test was $r = .81$ for the total sample, $r = .78$ for the Girls sub-sample and $r = .83$ for the Boys sub-sample. Based on factorial and parallel analysis, a 4-factors structure was selected for the total sample (variance explained, VE=38.93%), the Girls (VE=36.92%) and the Boys (VE=41.98%). The items content were similar in the total sample and by gender, but the order of the factors was different. The four factors were: "Depression and Negative Self Esteem", "Ineffectiveness and Somatic Symptoms", "Anhedonia", "Interpersonal Problems". The SE and CDI total scores were negative and statistically ($p < .001$) correlated in the total sample ($r = -.67$), in Girls ($r = -.69$) and in Boys ($r = -.63$).

Conclusions: The Portuguese CDI has good reliability and validity, showing to be an adequate instrument for measuring depressive symptoms in Portuguese adolescents.