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Resilience in Latin American Adolescents: A Different Construct?

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Purpose: The Connor–Davidson Resilience Scale (CD-RISC)© is commonly used to measure resilience. Although the scale has been used in Spanish populations, the studies generally focused on Spain and Mexico. This study analyzed the psychometric performance of the Spanish version of the CD-RISC for South America, or the Connor-Davidson Escala de Resiliencia-25SA (CD-RISC-25SA)©, in a population of adolescents in Peru. The purpose of this presentation is to discuss the practical importance of incorporating cross-cultural translation and adaptation techniques into studies using Spanish versions of English language instruments in different Spanish speaking countries.

Methods: This was a cross-sectional study with a non-probability convenience sample to evaluate the psychometric properties of the CD-RISC-25SA©. The CD-RISC-25SA© is 25-items with 5 dimensions: D1 - personal competence, high standards and tenacity; D2 - trust in one's instincts, tolerance of negative affect, and strengthening effects of stress, D3 - positive acceptance of change and secure relationships, D4 - control, and D5 - spiritual influences (Connor & Davidson, 2003). The evaluation began with face validity and concluded with confirmatory factor analysis. In addition, the English and Spanish versions of the scale were compared. The data were organized in an Excel database for analysis with the statistical program R. This study was approved by the ethics committee at the participating university.

Results: The CD-RISC-25SA© was completed by 452 adolescents. The psychometric analysis resulted in a 21-item scale with three dimensions, D1, D2, D4. Two dimensions (D3 & D5) disappeared from the instrument. In the case of D3, most items shifted to D1. Seeking to explain the observed phenomenon, items and dimensions from the new Peruvian scale were critically evaluated and compared to the original English and Spanish scales. In this regard, we observed the positive acceptance of change and the ability to construct secure relationships is specific to the personal resource necessary to live. The elimination of D5, or spirituality, was striking as Latinos usually cope through spirituality as they manage difficult situations. Latinos generally believe a superior force gives them the strength and direction to continue forward. The review of the individual dimension items; however, provided insight into the misuse of key words in Spanish to explain concepts from English. For example, the word "fate" in English was mistranslated into the word "luck" in Spanish (the incorrect word "suerte" instead of the

correct word "destino"). For Latinos, the word "destino" is associated with spirituality whereas the word "suerte" is often associated with superstition.

Conclusion: This study reports a psychometric analysis of the CD-RISC-25SA© in Peru. Although the instrument exhibited good face-validity and adequate reliability, the construct validity was inadequate. The instrument handbook indicated the CD-RISC-25SA© is valid and reliable for countries in South America; however, this might not be the case for Peru. As each Spanish speaking country has their own culturally specific adaptation of the Spanish language, adequate cross-cultural translation and adaptation techniques need to be incorporated into instrument studies to prevent errors in translation. In addition, researchers need to demonstrate acceptable instrument reliability and validity for each Spanish speaking country where the instrument is used.

Title:

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Keywords:

Connor–Davidson Resilience Scale, Cross cultural research and Instrument validation and reliability

Abstract Summary:

This presentation highlights the problems discovered when using the South American Spanish version of the Connor–Davidson Resilience Scale for research in Peru. The discussion focuses on incorporating the appropriate cross-cultural translation and adaptation techniques into research studies using Spanish versions of English language instruments for different Spanish speaking countries.

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