

Development of a suicidal recovery instrument to assess suicidal individuals' recovery condition

Fan-Ko Sun¹, RN, PhD, Department of Nursing, I-Shou University, Taiwan

Chun-Ying Chiang², RN, PhD, Department of Nursing, I-Shou University, Taiwan

Ruey-Hsia Wang³, RN, PhD, College of Nursing, Kaohsiung Medical University, Taiwan



PURPOSE

- The aim of this study was to establish the reliability and validity of a suicidal recovery instrument to assess suicidal individuals' recovery condition.

METHODS

- Four professionals in this area, and 10 patients who recovered from suicide attempts screened the suicidal recovery instrument to establish content validity.
- A pilot study was conducted comprising patients who recovered from suicide attempts ($n=84$) to test the instrument for reliability.
- Participants came from a Suicide Prevention Center in Taiwan and was restricted to those who had made a previous suicide attempt(s) but had no suicide attempts in the past one year.
- Data was collected in 2014.
- Internal consistency reliability and test-retest reliability (two tests over a one-month interval) were used to determine the reliability of the instrument.

RESULTS

Background and characteristics of Participants (Table 1)

Table 1. The Characteristics of Suicidal Individuals ($N = 84$)

Demographics	Mean	SD
Age (years)	40.08	10.68
Last suicide from now	19.93	9.10
	<i>n</i>	%
Gender		
Male	22	26.2
Female	62	73.8
Education		
<Middle school	32	38.1
High school	35	41.7
>Junior college	17	20.2
Marital status		
Single	53	63.1
Married	31	36.9
No of Children		
0	29	34.5
<2	35	41.7
>2	20	23.8
Religion		
No	22	26.5
Yes	61	72.6
Missing	1	0.9
Working conditions		
>40 hrs/w	43	52.9
<40 hrs/w	41	47.1
Living together		
Yes	74	88.1
No	10	11.9
Support system(multiple choice)		
Family	65	77.4
Friend	30	35.7
Other	28	33.3
Significant event(multiple choice)		
Loss family	14	16.7
Loss health	19	22.6
Failure in love	10	11.9
Other	9	10.7
No of suicide		
≤ 1	42	50.0
>1	42	50.0
Suicide method (multiple choices)		
Cut the wrist	34	40.5
Overdose	60	71.4
Other	20	23.8
Suicide reason (multiple choices)		
Physical factor	42	50.6
Family	33	39.3
Economic	78	82.1
Mental factor	28	33.3

The major results

- The final version of the suicidal recovery instrument contained four subcategories with 22 items:
 - Identifying the meaning of existence (5 items),
 - Adaptive ability (6 items),
 - Optimistic facing life (6 items),
 - Attitude towards life (5 items).
- The result of content validity index (CVI) was 0.94 for the instrument.
- Cronbach's alpha demonstrated a reliability of 0.91 for the instrument.
- The test-retest reliability for the instrument was 0.60.

CONCLUSION

- The suicidal recovery instrument tested satisfactorily for content validity and reliability.
- In future research, the researcher can use exploratory factor analysis (EFA) and confirmatory factor analysis (CFA) to examine the construct validity.
- Nurses can use the suicidal recovery instrument to assess the recovery condition of suicidal individuals.