Selecting an Instrument



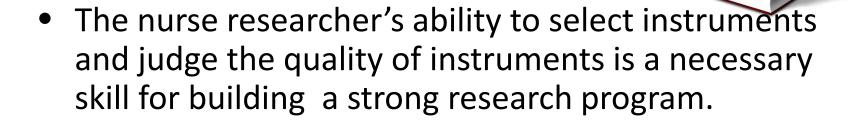
Important Psychometric
Properties using the
General Well-Being
Schedule as the Example

• Challenges for some novice nurse researchers is the development of personal research skills to select instruments.



- Providing an example of an instrument
- Providing tools for selecting an instrument and evaluation of the psychometric qualities of the example instrument.
- Important to choose appropriate instruments for research and to speak to instrument quality by using psychometric criteria.

Selecting an Instrument



- It is important to understand the construct under study, the instrument development, testing, and usage.
- Example: General Well-Being Schedule Dupuy, 1978

Selecting an Instrument



- The conceptual basis of the GWB instrument
- Discussion of the known, published, psychometric properties will be noted in several articles
- GWB has been used, for several decades, in a large body of research
- History of the construct: "well-being"
- The Factor structure

EXAMPLE: General Well-Being Schedule



History of the CONSTRUCT: "well-being"

 Conceptual basis of the GWB Schedule Instrument

Description of the GWB Instrument

GWB Quality – Psychometric Properties



- Reliability Test Retest Reliability
- Internal Consistency
- Validity
- Factor Structure and Analysis
- Conclusions and Recommendations about the GWB

Nurse Researcher Implications

Improving Reliability

- be sure that the raters/examiners that collect the data are responsible, competent, and trained to use the instrument.
- Supervise the collection of the data and periodically check the raters/examiners.
- Standardize the conditions wheile testing/using the instrument and minimize distractions.
- Ensure that directions and the wording of the questions leave nothing to interpretation.
- Standardize the data collection.

Validity

- simply: when you select an instrument to use in your study you must be sure that its validity has been thoroughly evaluated
- Use previously tested instruments to enhance your research

Conclusions

 Selecting instruments is an extremely important research skill along with making a judgement on whether the instrument is conceptually relevant and deciding if the instrument will yield data of sufficient high quality.

 ONWARD with building credible nursing research programs in order to strengthen EBP and our nursing profession.