

P02-23 - RATINGS OF THERAPEUTIC BOUNDARY EXCURSIONS DIFFER WITH CULTURE: AN APPLICATION OF RASCH ANALYSIS IN PSYCHIATRY

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Background: Boundary violations and boundary crossings have been constantly ignored in clinical settings due to its sensitive nature. Recent studies have identified several number of boundaries identified through quantitative and qualitative research. Large instruments have been developed for detecting boundary excursions in clinical settings. Rasch modeling offers a ground-breaking method for validating such large instruments.

Aim: The aim of this study is to introduce Rasch analysis features that enable to study large instruments like clinical boundary excursion questionnaire in a psychiatry setting.

Methods: An 88 item boundary excursion questionnaire was administered among 50 subjects during the period Jan-May 2008. Eligibility criteria for subjects included physicians, nurses and healthcare staff working in Psychiatry department at Rumeilah Hospital. Data was analysed using the Winsteps software.

Results: The boundary excursion questionnaire showed high reliability. The instrument also showed high unidimensional construct according to rasch analysis with only few items violating the criterion for unidimensionality.

Conclusion: Rasch analysis provides significant amount of information to researchers regarding the presence of invariance and measurement of separation of items which are otherwise not detected in traditional analysis. The advantages of the using rasch map given large number of items are further discussed.