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**THE GREEK VERSION OF THE CAMBERWELL ASSESSMENT OF NEED: PSYCHOMETRIC PROPERTIES AND ASSOCIATIONS WITH QUALITY OF LIFE AND SOCIAL DISABILITY IN SCHIZOPHRENIA**

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**Introduction:** Needs assessment has been highlighted as a crucial factor in the development, organisation and evaluation of mental health services. Moreover, meeting self-reported needs is of prime importance for ensuring quality of life and reducing social disability for people with severe mental disorders.

**Objectives:** Service evaluation based on patients' need assessments has never taken place in Greece. Furthermore there are no standardized needs assessment instruments. Given the underfunding of psychiatric services due to the current economic crisis, systematic need assessment is expected to contribute to the efficient use of their limited resources.

**Aims:** To examine the concurrent validity, inter-rater and test-retest reliability of the Greek research version of the Camberwell Assessment of Need (CAN-R).

**Method:** Fifty-three schizophrenia patient–staff pairs were interviewed twice to test the inter-rater and test-retest reliability of the CAN-R (Greek version). The WHOQOL-BREF and WHODAS 2.0 were administered to the patients to examine concurrent validity.

**Results:** The inter-rater and test-retest reliability of patient and staff interviews for the 22 individual items and the eight summary scores of the instrument's four sections were good to excellent. Significant correlations emerged between CAN scores and the WHOQOL-BREF and WHODAS 2.0 domains for patient and staff ratings, indicating good concurrent validity.

**Conclusion:** Our results suggest that the Greek version of the CAN-R is a reliable instrument for assessing mental health patients' needs. This is the first CAN-R validity study with satisfactory results using WHOQOL-BREF and WHODAS 2.0 as criterion variables.

**Keywords:** Needs, Schizophrenia, Quality of Life, Social disability