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PSYCHOMETRIC PROPERTIES OF THE STRENGTHS AND DIFFICULTIES QUESTIONNAIRE (SDQ) PARENT VERSION IN A TRANSYLVANIAN MINORITY GROUP. CONFIRMATORY FACTOR ANALYSIS



Susana, Farcas¹, Stefan, Szamosközi², Evelin, Petric¹, Anna, Veres¹

¹ Ph.D. student, Babeş-Bolyai University, Evidence-based Assessment and Psychological Interventions Doctoral School, Cluj-Napoca, Romania

² Prof. Ph.D., Babeş-Bolyai University, Applied Psychology Department

Introduction

Objectives:

- 1) to analyze the structural validity of the parent version of the SDQ
- 2) to use the SDQ for a general screening to identify children with ADHD symptoms in a Hungarian minority population from Transylvania

Methods

Participants: Teachers completed the SDQ for 102 children (N = 102), 57.3% female, 42.7% male, age 6 to 10 years, mean age M(SD)=7.55(1.54)

Measurement

Screening ADHD symptoms and related problems (social, emotional and behavioral problems): The Hungarian version of SDQ for Teachers, version for ages 4-17 was used [3, 4, 5]. Items can be labeled on a Likert scale from 0 = rare / never to 2 = very often

Results

- CFA was conducted using the SPSS AMOS package [1, 2]
- The *Maximum Likelihood procedure* was used
- several models were tested:
- a five-factor, higher order solution see *Figure 1* and a lower order solution see *Figure 2*
- according to the results of the current study, the tested models are not quite adequate, as indicated by poor model fit indices (see *Table 1*).

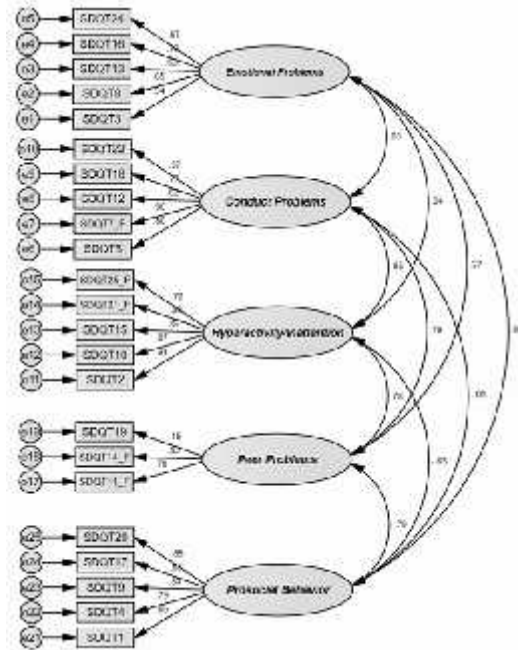


Figure 2. Model 2B: The five factor structure SDQ model, a lower order solution, items 6, 23 excluded

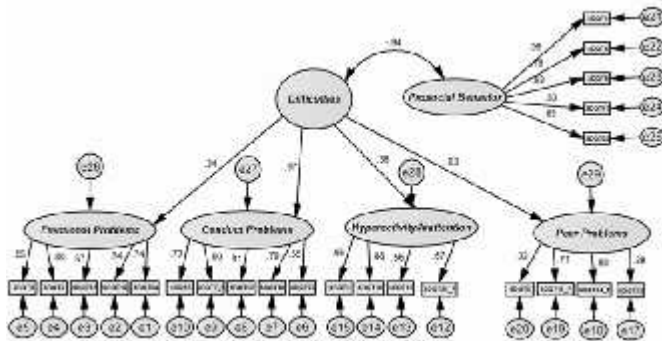


Figure 1. Model 1B: The five factor structure SDQ model, higher order solution, items 23, 25 excluded

Table 1. Model Fit Indices (N = 102)

	Constructs	$\Delta\chi^2$	Δdf	p	CFI	PCFI	TLI	GFI	RMSEA
Model 1A.	All factor *5 factors/ a total of 25 items	740.386	273	.00	.76	.69	.74	.64	.13
Model 1B.	All factor *5 factors/ a total of 23 items, items 23, 25 were excluded	637.649	228	.00	.77	.70	.75	.66	.13
Model 2A.	All factor *5 factors/ a total of 25 items	679.260	265	.00	.79	.70	.76	.65	.12
Model 2B.	All factor *5 factors/ a total of 23 items, item 6, 23 were excluded	572.832	220	.00	.81	.71	.78	.66	.13

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Conclusion

- previous studies reported mixed results regarding the psychometric properties of the SDQ [6, 7, 8]
- in the current study the indices of fit were low across all models
- a five-factor, higher order solution, originally intended for the SDQ provided the best representation of the instrument's structure
- high internal reliability estimates were found for each subscale indicated by Cronbach alpha's ranging from $\alpha = .73$ to $.93$
- significant gender differences were found, as determined by Chi-square, indicating that parents reported a higher frequency of hyperactivity/inattention symptoms and total problems for male participants
- in addition, prevalence of ADHD symptoms (children allocated to the group of *highly likely to have problems*) was extremely high: 24.5% (N=25) for male and 5.9% (N=6) for female participants

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