

PSYCHOMETRIC EVALUATION OF SHAH VERSION OF MODIFIED BARTHEL INDEX (MBI) IN IRANIAN ELDERLY PEOPLE RESIDING IN NURSING HOMES

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Objectives: The rehabilitation interventions have an important role in enhancement of elderly people health level especially who are residing in nursing homes. For assessing of these interventions effectiveness on functional disability, the valid and sensitive instrument is necessary. So, this study was designed to evaluate the reliability and validity of the Shah version of MBI in older Iranians residing in nursing home, kashan-Iran, 2006.

Methods: The Shah version of MBI was translated from English to Persian through back & forward method. The sampling was performed using census method in Kashan Golabchi nursing home (n=100). After their informed consent, the questionnaires were completed through interview and observation by two personnel of the mentioned center. Inter-rater agreement was assessed. Reliability was determined via internal consistency (Item- total Correlation, Cronbach's alpha and split-half). Validity was determined via Criterion – Related validity (Concurrent V.) and Construct Validity (Known-groups approach). In recent method, the samples were divided into 4 groups, according to age groups suggested by WHO; and then MBI scores were compared among 4 groups. The data were analyzed using Pearson correlation coefficient, Intra-class correlation coefficient (ICC), Kappa, Equal - Length spearman-brown, Guttman, Cronbach's alpha coefficient and Kruskal-wallis test.

Results: In 0-100 scale, MBI score was $68/56 \pm 37/04$. Inter-rater reliability coefficient for every item was more than 0/6 (Kappa); Inter-rater reliability in the total MBI was reported 0/998(ICC). The questionnaire reliability coefficient (internal consistency) was calculated 0/96-0/98. Item-total correlation confirmed its reliability too. Its concurrent validity with Persian original Barthel index was confirmed($r=0/993$, $p<0/0001$). The known-groups approach also revealed this tool is valid ($p<0/0001$).

Conclusion: The Persian Shah version of MBI for evaluation of Disability in elderly Iranians residing in nursing homes is valid and reliable.