VALIDATION OF THE FRENCH VERSION OF THE PERSONAL AND SOCIAL PERFORMANCE SCALE (PSP)

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Objectives: The Personal and Social Performance (PSP) scale is a reliable and valid instrument that utilizes objective parameters for assessment of social functioning in patients with schizophrenia. The aim of this study was to determine the validity and reliability of the French version of PSP in a population of French schizophrenic patients.

Methods: Patients with DSM-IV diagnoses of schizophrenia and schizoaffective disorder were recruited and assessed in a cross-sectional design using the PSP, GAF, SOFS, PANSS, CGI severity. Internal consistency for the PSP was obtained and convergent validity was assessed using correlations between PSP, GAF and PANSS factors. Inter-rater reliability was evaluated with intra class correlation coefficient (ICC).

Results: 147 in and out patients, at 5 French sites participated in this study. The Cronbach's alpha coefficient of the PSP was good (alpha=0.77). The PSP showed very good inter rater reliability (ICC = 0.90). Pearson correlation coefficient for association between PSP and GAF (r=0.85) and PSP and SOFS (r=- 0.78) are high proving good convergent validity for PSP. Pearson correlation coefficients are moderate when PSP is correlated with 4 of the five PANSS sub factors (r from -0.43 to -0.48). The anxious and depression factor (r=-0.17) showed low correlation with PSP. Spearman Rank correlation coefficient between PSP and CGI severity was r=-0.72.

Conclusions: Our results demonstrate that the PSP scale is a reliable and valid instrument for assessing social functioning of patients with schizophrenia during the course of treatment as well as in acute state.