



Psychometric properties of the Stirling Eating Disorder Scales with bulimia nervosa patients

Christine Openshaw^{a,*}, Glenn Waller^b

^a*Guildford Community Mental Health Team, Surrey Hampshire Borders NHS Trust, Nightingale Building, Farnham Road Hospital, Farnham Road, Guildford, Surrey GU2 7LX, United Kingdom*

^b*Eating Disorders Service, South West London and St. George's Mental Health NHS Trust, United Kingdom*

Received 19 May 2004; accepted 31 August 2004

Abstract

Background: The Stirling Eating Disorder Scales (SEDS) are described as a well-validated measure of anorexic and bulimic cognitions and behaviors. However, there is little published research that demonstrates or tests the psychometric properties of the SEDS. The aim of this study was to assess the internal consistency of the SEDS with a clinical population at a specialist eating disorders service.

Method: This study was a cross-sectional component of a larger study (evaluating cognitive behavioural group treatment for bulimia nervosa). At assessment at a specialist eating disorders service, the SEDS was administered to a clinical sample of women with a diagnosis of bulimia nervosa ($N=40$). Cronbach's alpha coefficients were used to determine the internal consistency of the scales.

Results: While the internal consistency of the overall SEDS was good, the existing SEDS subscales lacked internal consistency. Only one of the eight subscales (perceived external control) had an acceptable alpha ($>.700$). By removing up to three questionnaire items for each subscale that most impaired the alpha, only two further subscales were raised to an acceptable alpha. The sample's scores did not closely reflect the reported norms.

Discussion: More studies are needed to determine the clinical and psychometric validity of the SEDS. However, the present findings indicate that the preliminary psychometric findings do not generalize to other adult clinical populations. Therefore, caution should be used when interpreting the results of the SEDS when working with adults with eating disorders.

© 2004 Elsevier Ltd. All rights reserved.

Keywords: Bulimia; Self-report; Psychometrics

* Corresponding author. Tel.: +44 1483 443551; fax: +44 1483 443667.

E-mail address: christine.openshaw@shb-tr.nhs.uk (C. Openshaw).

1. Introduction

There are a number of psychometric tests available for the evaluation of eating psychopathology, each with its own strengths and limitations (e.g., Eating Disorder Examination, Fairburn & Cooper, 1993; Eating Disorders Inventory-2, Garner, 1991; Eating Attitudes Test, Garner & Garfinkel, 1979; Bulimic Investigatory Test, Edinburgh, Henderson & Freeman, 1987). The Stirling Eating Disorder Scales (SEDS; Williams & Power, 1995) were developed to respond to the limitations of those measures by addressing a range of anorexic and bulimic cognitions and behaviors, as well as related psychological variables (Williams, Chamove, & Miller, 1990; Williams et al., 1993, 1994).

Despite being relatively widely used in the UK for clinical purposes, to date, the SEDS has limited evidence of psychometric validity. It was originally standardised on a sample of 38 bulimics, 40 anorexics, and 76 controls (Williams & Power, 1995). While it is not possible to determine the groupings involved from the available reports, these authors reported high internal consistency for the individual scales (Cronbach's $\alpha=.73-.99$). Split-half reliability and test-retest reliability were also high. Campbell, Lawrence, Serpell, Lask and Neiderman (2003) have also shown that the SEDS has good criterion and discriminant validity and high internal consistency among adolescents with eating disorders, although many participants had difficulties comprehending some of the items. However, it is not clear that the SEDS is psychometrically valid for use among individual diagnostic groups of eating-disordered patients. A number of steps are required in order to determine that validity among different groups. This paper reports on the internal consistency of the SEDS among a group of bulimia nervosa patients at assessment for treatment.

2. Method

2.1. Participants

Forty women were recruited for this study. All were assessed at a specialist eating disorders service and met DSM-IV criteria for bulimia nervosa (American Psychiatric Association, 1994). Their mean age

Table 1

Cronbach's alpha coefficients, means, and standard deviations for the Stirling Eating Disorder Scales (SEDS) (original and revised scoring)

SEDS scale	Full version			Version with poorest items removed			
	Alpha	Mean	(SD)	Items removed*	Alpha	Mean	(SD)
Anorexic dietary cognitions	.449	29.6	(8.2)	5, 21, 69	.512	21.0	(6.2)
Anorexic dietary behaviors	.610	14.9	(9.0)	6, 30	.626	13.9	(8.4)
Bulimic dietary cognitions	.550	35.9	(8.6)	31, 39, 55	.682	26.3	(5.4)
Bulimic dietary behaviors	.617	30.3	(8.8)	8, 16, 48	.732	19.6	(6.8)
Perceived external control	.736	21.3	(10.3)	36, 52, 68	.781	12.0	(9.3)
Low assertiveness	.530	23.1	(7.4)	1, 9, 17	.600	15.6	(5.4)
Low self-esteem	.670	24.6	(8.5)	2, 10, 34	.728	18.3	(6.6)
Self-directed hostility	.564	26.1	(10.5)	35, 75	.577	25.1	(8.9)
SEDS total score	.838	203.7	(43.2)	all above items	.839	151.8	(32.2)

* Items are listed in the order in which they appear on the questionnaire.

متن کامل مقاله

دریافت فوری ←

ISIArticles

مرجع مقالات تخصصی ایران

- ✓ امکان دانلود نسخه تمام متن مقالات انگلیسی
- ✓ امکان دانلود نسخه ترجمه شده مقالات
- ✓ پذیرش سفارش ترجمه تخصصی
- ✓ امکان جستجو در آرشیو جامعی از صدها موضوع و هزاران مقاله
- ✓ امکان دانلود رایگان ۲ صفحه اول هر مقاله
- ✓ امکان پرداخت اینترنتی با کلیه کارت های عضو شتاب
- ✓ دانلود فوری مقاله پس از پرداخت آنلاین
- ✓ پشتیبانی کامل خرید با بهره مندی از سیستم هوشمند رهگیری سفارشات