

MAE4011 PoM :: Paper Presentation

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Validation of the Minimum Data Set Cognitive Performance Scale: Agreement with the Mini-Mental State Examination

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introduction

- **Cognitive impairment**, particularly **dementia** of the Alzheimer's type, is a major problem in nursing homes across the United States
- By law. required to assess each resident's **functional, medical, psychosocial, and cognitive status**
- standard instrument known as the Minimum Data Set (**MDS**) is used

Problem with current use of MDS

- The structure of the MDS calls for **clinical professionals** (e.g., nurses, social workers, therapists) to **directly observe and assess** resident performance over all shifts **during a specified time** period
- For cognitive status, **7 direct** and **A number of indirect** measures generally unfeasible for use in nursing home populations due to their:
 - (a) excessive length,
 - (b) need COGNITIVE PERFORMANCE SCALE VALIDATION for highly skilled personnel for administration, and
 - (c) excessive administration costs.
- **Cognitive Performance Scale (CPS) is developed as a new assessment method**


The paper presented

- Validation of MDS -CPS
- against the Mini-Mental State Examination (MMSE), a popular clinical measure of cognitive functioning.



Methodology



- **Subject-** a random sample of 200 residents recruited from 8 nursing home facilities in North Carolina.
 - **Facilities** situated within a range of 1-h driving distance from a center-point
 - **Instruments and Data Collection:**
 - CPS & MMSE
 - on-site data collection at the same-time point
 - Each resident was assessed once on the MMSE by medical students
 - geriatric research nurse was responsible for collecting the selected MDS cognitive items, which included the 5 items required for generating CPS scores.
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Relationship/difference

CPS

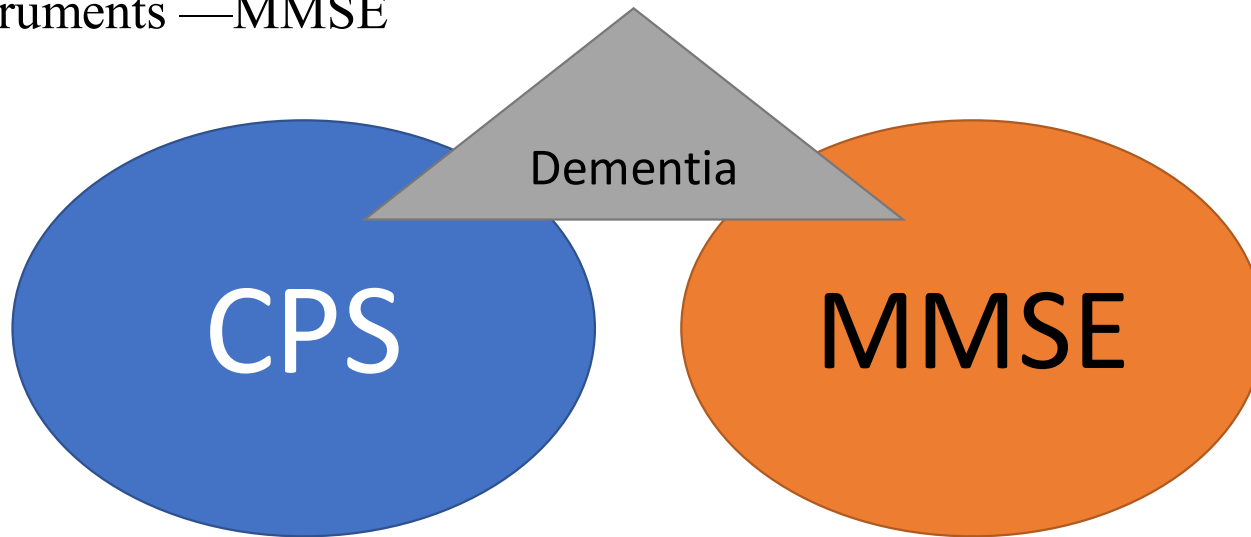
- **5 selected MDS cognitive** items
 - comatose status, short-term memory, ability to make decisions, making self understood, and eating performance
- **7-point rating scale**
 - 0 (no impairment)
 - 1
 - 2
 - 3
 - 4
 - 5
 - to 6 (very severe impairment)
- Regular staff can administer

MMSE: "**gold standard**"

- consisting of 22 questions and requiring approximately 10-15 minutes to administer
- Scores range from **0 (worst) to 30 (perfect)**.
 - 0-17- SEVERE COGNITIVE IMPAIRMENT
 - 18-23- Mild
 - 24-30- No impairment
- Cognitive Performance Scale (CPS) is Stratified on Education Level
 - ≤ 23 + greater than grade 8 and
 - ≤ 17 + \leq grade 8
- were classified as cognitively impaired
- **Need medical professional to administer**

Validation procedure


- **Evidence based on relations to other variables**
 - Modeling of the CPS was based on two standard cognitive assessment instruments —MMSE





categorization of the validation procedures



- Convergent evidence:
 - CPS was intended to measure construct- Dementia (cognitive impairment) that is exhibited by strong relationships with MMSE (e.g., correlation coefficients).
 - Test-criterion relationships:
 - How accurately do test scores predict criterion performance?
 - **Concurrent evidence:** Obtained test- and criterion information at about the same time.
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results and evaluation of the validity

- Spearman **correlation**:
 - $r = -.863$ ($p < .001$)
- **Sensitivity and specificity**
 - Overall, adjusting for education level, sensitivity and specificity measures for the CPS compared with the MMSE were both **.94**
- **Kappa coefficients of reproducibility**- correct chance agreement
 - Adjusting for education level, agreement between the CPS and MMSE was $k = .82$ (95% CI: .68, .96).
- The area under the **ROC curve**. (true pos vs false pos)
 - to evaluate the **diagnostic accuracy** of the CPS in correctly identifying cognitively impaired from cognitively intact subjects as defined by the MMSE
 - **0.96%**- excellent.
- **Positive and negative predictive values**
 - Prevalence of a positive diagnosis (impaired = yes) and negative diagnosis (impaired = no) was **76% and 24%**, respectively.

Concluding remarks

- To me, it's a good example of construct validation
- However
 - **Randomization** of sample is still in question- should consider more and diverse subjects
 - Paper motioned to **model** CPS with another standard method Test for Severe Impairment (**TSI**)- but no data has been provided.
 - **Validity generalization**: missing
 - Does evidence from this validation generalize to another?
 - Do we need to re-validate interpretations and uses every time?