Validity and reliability of the Functional Assessment for Borderline personality disorder (FAB), a new questionnaire for persons with BPD

Julie J. Desrosiers¹, Nadine Larivièrê¹, Johanne Desrosiers¹, Richard Boyer², Pierre David²,³, Félix-Antoine Bérubé²,³, Frédéric Pérusse³ 
¹université de sherbrooke, Sherbrooke, Canada, ²Université de Montréal, Montréal, Canada, ³Institut Universitaire de santé mentale de Montréal, Montréal, Canada

Introduction: People living with borderline personality disorder (BPD) experience major impacts on their daily lives. A valid and reliable assessment of daily functioning for people with BPD is essential to accurately guide treatment and rehabilitation. The Functional Assessment for Borderline personality disorder (FAB) is a self-administered questionnaire recently designed to assess daily functioning of persons with BPD. It includes 38 dimensions assessing (1) functional mode and (2) level of difficulty in two distinct scales for four domains of functioning: basic daily activities, community-based activities, dimensions of social environment, and internal dimensions.

Objectives: The aim of this oral communication is to present internal consistency, test-retest reliability and convergent validity of the FAB.

Methods: The FAB was completed at two separate times, two weeks apart, by 36 adult persons with BPD recruited into specialized treatment programs. To assess convergent validity, the GAF was administered by psychiatrists and participants also completed the WHODAS 2.0 questionnaire.

Results: The internal consistency obtained was high (Cronbach's alpha of 0.88 and 0.82 for the two scales respectively). The FAB shows very good test-retest fidelity between two moments (ICC = 0.92 and 0.87 for the two scales). FAB is moderately correlated with EGF (r = 0.48, p = 0.003; r = 0.41, p = 0.013) and strongly correlated with WHODAS 2.0 (r = -0.70, p <0.001 for both scales).

Conclusion: The FAB has demonstrated promising metrological properties and can be used in clinical settings in order to assess daily functioning for people with BPD.