ASSSESSMENT OF THE INTERNAL CONSISTENCY AND CONCURRENT VALIDITY OF THE MEDICATION ADHERENCE REASONS SCALE (MAR-SCALE) IN AN ATTENTION-DEFICIT/HYPERACTIVITY DISORDER POPULATION-BASED SAMPLE

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Abstract

Adults with attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) face many challenges related to medication adherence, which is linked to increased absenteeism and productivity loss. Medication adherence reasons (MARs) are key to understanding why patients may not adhere to their prescribed pharmacotherapy. To date, there has been limited research assessing adults with ADHD specifically. Thus, this study aimed to assess the reliability and validity of the Medication Adherence Reasons Scale (MAR-Scale) in adults with ADHD (n=593). The MAR-Scale demonstrated acceptable validity in adults with ADHD. MAR-Scale overall score was significantly and positively correlated with work productivity impairment (r=0.32), activity impairment (r=0.25), and absenteeism (r=0.23); all results were statistically significant (P<0.01). Cronbach's alpha and item-total correlations were strong for the MAR-Scale (α=0.79) and when all 19 items were considered as one scale (Cronbach's α=0.78). These results support the validity of the MAR-Scale in adults with ADHD. MAR-Scale total score. Limitations

- Only 47% of participants provided full response data.
- The study sample was comprised of community-based participants and may not be generalizable to those with severe or high-functioning ADHD.
- A larger sample size or longitudinal study could be considered to further explore the construct validity of the MAR-Scale.

Conclusions

- In adults who self-reported being diagnosed with ADHD and currently treated with stimulants, the MAR-Scale demonstrated acceptable internal reliability and good concurrent validity with the MGLS.

Table 1. Reliability of the MAR-Scale

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Educational Attainment</th>
<th>N (%)</th>
<th>T score (±SD)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than a college degree</td>
<td>286 (47.5)</td>
<td>60.15 (17.1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College degree or higher</td>
<td>307 (52.5)</td>
<td>62.79 (14.7)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2. Concurrent Validity of the MAR-Scale

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Baseline Work Productivity Impairment</th>
<th>Activity Impairment</th>
<th>Absenteeism</th>
<th>MAR-Scale Total Score</th>
<th>MAR-Scale Total Score</th>
<th>P value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>0.32</td>
<td>0.25</td>
<td>0.23</td>
<td>0.79</td>
<td>0.78</td>
<td>&lt;0.001</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

References


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