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Dear ITC Members and Friends,

Members are the most important asset to the ITC. We reached out to our members through an online survey earlier this year to understand how ITC can serve them better. We received replies from over 160 members. They considered the ITC Conferences, the Journal (International Journal of Testing) and the ITC Guidelines to be the most useful to their work. Many of them call for new actions, including "Actively engaging with national policy makers to support good testing practices", "Reviewing and refining its current guidelines", "Taking a more active role in assisting universities in developing graduate programs that prepare psychometric specialists", and "Training people in test development". The Council will study these proposals as we move forward. More importantly, we count on your active participation in our committees to review and plan these new initiatives.

A majority of the surveyed members also asked for translating the existing ITC Guidelines into as many languages as possible. I'd like to appeal to you to help in translating these guidelines into your local languages. Dragos Iliescu is helping us to coordinate these efforts under his leadership of the Research and Guidelines Committee. Please contact Dragos if you or your colleague can assist with the translation.

Apart from new guidelines, ITC also responded to our members' request to come up with a Statement on the Use of Tests and Other Assessment Instruments for Research Purposes. Test usage, even for research purposes, should abide by the principles of ethical test usage and be conducted or be supervised by a competent test user, with careful observation of the rights of the test-takers and other parties involved in the process. This Statement aims to inform researchers on the ethics of testing, and will be accessible from the ITC website in late December.

The 2014 ITC Conference in San Sebastian, Spain is fast approaching. The deadline for abstract submission is January 15. A rich scientific program has been lined up. Unique cultural and gastronomical experiences are awaiting you in San Sebastian. I look forward to welcoming you there in July. As in previous conferences, ITC will be sponsoring young scholars from emerging economies to attend this conference. Please refer to the call for nomination in this newsletter.

Fanny M. Cheung

ITC Council Meeting – Stockholm 2013

The International Test Commission's Council held its usual annual meeting in Stockholm in July 2013. While Council meetings last for a day and a half, we always have a packed agenda and it has become increasingly clear that we need to devote some quality time to considering the ITC's continuing mission and role in a changing world. It was decided that Council will dedicate half a day next year before the San Sebastian ITC Conference to a discussion of the ITC's future strategy. We are very grateful to all the members who responded to our membership survey we ran in May 2013 and believe that the results will assist us in considering our future priorities. We will also be reviewing the outreach and capacity building activities we have been developing.

- According to our survey the most appreciated outputs of the ITC are: the conference, the Journal (IJT) and the Guidelines (in that order). In addition, these were rated as having the most impact on our members' work.
- The newsletter and regional conferences, while very much appreciated, were not been perceived as having that strong an impact.
- The most appreciated proposals for new actions of the ITC are "Actively engaging with national policy makers to support good testing practices", "Reviewing and refining its current guidelines", "Taking a more active role in assisting universities in developing graduate programs that prepare psychometric specialists", and "Training people in test development".
- The survey also revealed that ITC involvement in new communication technologies (Facebook, Twitter etc.) is not currently of high importance to our members but we feel these should be investigated for the future.

We strongly believe that all these comments from members are important and will be taken on-board. Looking at capacity building the agreed aim of the Capacity and Outreach function is to co-opt custodians or convenors for targeted emerging countries where ITC does not have a major presence. The goals are to:

- propose and enact strategies for building capacity in testing on a global basis, focusing specifically on emerging countries as well as countries where ITC does not have a major presence.
- strengthen the knowledge base, skills and abilities in our field of expertise.

Actions completed so far have focused on South America (especially Brazil), Africa (Mozambique) and Asia (Indonesia).

Brazilian Joint Conference

The sixth biannual conference of the Brazilian Institute of Psychological Assessment (IBAP) together with the Ninth Congress of the Iberoamerican Association of Diagnosis and Psychological Assessment (AIDEP) met in Maceio, Brazil on June 4th through the 7th. Maceio is located in one of the most lovely seashore areas in the northeastern area of the country. The conference hotel was adjacent to the beach. This was the first joint meeting of these two associations devoted to test development and use.

ITC Presence

The ITC was represented by Barbara Byrne, Tom Oakland, and Solange Wechsler. Barbara presented two workshops on structural equation modeling: introduction to basic concepts and basic applications that included caveats pertinent to cross-cultural data. Tom gave a keynote address on the status of test development and use with children internationally and two workshops (i.e. publishing in English language journals and another on the impact of temperament on adult behavior). Barbara and Tom jointly presented a session on the International Test Commission. Solange was involved in four round table discussions: positive psychology, talent identification, children's drawings, and needs for psychological assessment in Iberian Latin American countries.

ITC representatives then met with representatives from the IBAP and AIDEP executive committees to explore ways the ITC, IBAP, and AIDEP can work more closely to achieve common goals, especially in South American and Iberoamerican countries together with Portugal and Spain. Participants at this meeting expressed a need for a conference, co-sponsored by the ITC, IBAP, and AIDEP, designed to further promote test development and use in South America, preferably in 2018. Its focus would be on growth areas for test development and use in South America, including Argentina, Columbia, Peru, and Venezuela. Delegates from the Central American countries also are likely to attend. The next five years would provide sufficient time to galvanize more involvement of colleagues in these countries. The IBAP has demonstrated its ability to organize viable conferences that have broad regional appeal and is committed to supporting this future conference initiative. Participants also discussed the importance of a better use of our newsletters to promote common interests. For example, the committee endorsed the proposal to include a column in every IBAP newsletter that summarized

issues and events important to and prepared by the ITC. Highlights of Testing International could be summarized.

ITC's Presence at Mozambique Psychological Association Conference 29-31 May 2013

This was the first conference of the Associação de Psicologia de Moçambique (APM) held at the University de Politecnica in Maputo, Mozambique. The theme of the conference was: The impact of war and living beyond it.

Background

At the International Congress of Psychology (ICP2012) held in Cape Town, South Africa, in July 2012, representatives of eleven African countries came together to discuss possibilities for developing a stronger focus for the role of Psychology within Africa. APM, represented by their President, Professor Bóia Efraime, signed a joint declaration of commitment to the establishment of a Pan-African Psychology Union to promote the development of psychology as a science and practice in the respective countries in Africa. The declaration was signed by representatives of Cameroon, Egypt, Ethiopia, IUPsyS, Kenya, Liberia, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, South Africa, and Zimbabwe. The declaration directly informed the First APM conference.

Presence of ITC

The APM is currently working with the Ministry of Health and Council of Ministers to create a Mozambican Chamber of Psychology. The Chamber will be the regulatory body for all practicing Psychologists in Mozambique. Against this background, the ITC was invited to present a keynote on the ITC guidelines as reference for the development and promotion of best practices in tests and testing. The ITC was represented by Aletta Odendaal.

Another invited keynote address was presented by Kim Dowdeswell, the Chair of People Assessment in Industry (PAI) an interest group of the Society of Industrial & Organisational Psychology of South Africa (SIOPSA). The keynote addressed psychological testing in the South African workplace focusing on legislative, regulatory and business requirements.

The conference further facilitated informal discussions with academics, government representatives as well as the representative from Zimbabwe regarding the use of best practice guidelines and access to ITC information. Specific topics covered were different test review procedures and in this regard reference to the special issue of IJT (2012) on international approaches to test reviewing received huge attention.

The keynote presentation, ITC Flyer as well as the link to the Portuguese ITC Guidelines on Test Use was emailed to all delegates after the conference by the APM organizing committee. Follow-up discussions are in progress to get the different interested individuals as well as professional bodies to consider membership.

Other activities

Members of Council have been involved in a wide range of international activities furthering the aims of the ITC. For example, Tom Oakland (who is also President of IAAP Division 2: Psychological Assessment and Evaluation) worked in the following countries during 2012-2013, teaching, presenting workshops, and consulting with our colleagues who provide leadership in testing at national and regional levels: Botswana, Canada, Denmark, Ireland, Macau, the Netherlands, Peoples' Republic of China, Philippines, Sweden, South Africa, and Thailand.

New Guidelines

Our work on the International Test Commission continues to focus on the development of guidelines that impact assessment and evaluation. Draft guidelines have been prepared on the following issues: (1) use of test revisions, obsolete tests and test disposal in the context of high stakes individual clinical diagnosis and decision-making, (2) the clinical assessment of immigrants and second-language learners and (3) test security. New guidelines on score analysis and reporting have been published recently in addition to the existing guidelines on test use, test adaptation and computer-based testing. Members will also be aware that we now have a standardised structure, style and format for our Guidelines.

We welcome any further comments and suggestions from our members in our on-going commitment to promote fair and effective testing and assessment policies and to the proper development, evaluation and uses of educational and psychological instruments.

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**Recent publications from the EFPA  
Board of Assessment  
Dave Bartram  
Convenor of the Board of Assessment**

The European Federation of Psychologists' Associations (EFPA) has 36 national member associations representing about 300,000 psychologists, including practitioners as well as academic and research psychologists. July 2013 saw the publication by EFPA of updated test user standards, standards covering psychological assessment and a revision of the EFPA test review model. All of these can be downloaded from the EFPA web site – see below for details. In 2011, the EFPA Board of Assessment replaced the Standing Committee on Tests and Testing (SCTT), which had a

long history of significant developments in the area of test and test user standards in Europe (Muniz & Bartram, 2007; Bartram, 2011). In the two years it has been in existence, the new Board has been active in completing its agreed work plan. In particular, it has:

- Agreed a working definition of 'assessment' which is consistent in its scope and form to that used for the ISO 10667 standard for assessment in work and organizational settings (though the EFPA definition covers all areas of assessment);
- Produced a substantial revision of the EFPA test review model;
- Updated the EFPA Test Use standards to cover all three domains of practice (work, health and education) each at three levels of competence;
- Produced a document explaining the EFPA Test Use standards and their application;
- Produced a set of standards for psychological assessment use covering three levels of competence and three domains of practice;
- Produced guidance on the coverage of psychological assessment in the basic EuroPsy for consideration by the EFPA European Awarding Committee.

The Board of Assessment is one of the largest of the EFPA Boards and Committees having 23 of the 36 EFPA Member Associations (MAs) represented. These are represented by people appointed by their countries' EFPA member psychological associations. In addition, the Board has observers representing the ITC, EAWOP and EAPA and the members of the EFPA Test User Accreditation Committee (TUAC), which works in collaboration with those MAs who are developing test user qualifications. Most of the work of the Board is carried out by working groups set up to deal with specific projects.

### **The Board's definition of 'assessment'**

The Board agreed a definition of assessment as a "systematic method or procedure for ascertaining the psychological characteristics of an individual or group of individuals, or the performance of an individual or group of individuals". We would emphasise that we intend a broad view of 'psychological characteristics'. Indeed, the term is used to differentiate between physical and psychological characteristics rather than imply any restriction to trait-like attributes. The definition is based on that developed for the ISO 10667 standard on assessment and this makes clear that it covers all types of psychological attribute, assessed at individual as well as aggregate levels (team, organization, network, family, social group etc). We would also envisage this covering the measurement of 'criteria' in so far as these are relevant to the "performance of an individual or group of individuals".

### **Revision to the EFPA Test Review Model**

The current “*EFPA Review Model for the Description and Evaluation of Psychological Tests*” was released in 2004 with some minor amendments in 2005 and 2008. Testing technologies and practice have developed rapidly since then, especially with regard to the application of IRT in the occupational and educational testing areas. A thorough review and update of the current documentation was deemed necessary and in 2010 the SCTT set up a working group under Arne Evers to carry out this revision. This group produced a substantial updated draft of the Review Model and this was subject to two rounds of consultation. It was approved by the General Assembly of EFPA in July 2013 and is now available on the website. The revision is described in more detail in Evers et al (2013).

This review model has attracted international interest from outside Europe. We were pleased to be given permission to the Psychometrics Board of the Health Professions Council of South Africa to make use of the model in their new test registration procedures.

### **Revision of the EFPA Test Use Standards and production of the Assessment Standards**

Prior to the formation of the Board of Assessment, the SCTT had produced a set of test use standards contextualized for testing in work, educational and health related settings. A three-level model of competence had been defined representing differing levels of expertise in the practice of test use. The SCTT had developed and approved detailed specifications for qualifications in occupational test use for all three levels of competence and outlines for the other two areas of practice.

During the period 2011-2013 the task was to revise the test use standards to ‘fill in the gaps’ so that they covered all three levels for all three domains of practice. In addition, we had been asked to then produce a version that more broadly covered assessment. However, it was first necessary to bring the specifications for testing and assessment in educational and health settings up to the same level of detail as those for testing and assessment in work related settings.

This was completed and the documents describing the testing standards and the assessment standards were approved by the EFPA General Assembly in 2013. These can be downloaded from the website.

### **Development of guidance on coverage of assessment in the basic EuroPsy certificate**

It was necessary to agree this expansion of the original EFPA Standard for Test Use to cover the broader area of assessment in order to inform the process of developing guidance on the standard of psychological assessment expected of those attaining the basic *EuroPsy* certificate.

Following revision of the standards, a document was prepared entitled “*Guidance on the standard of competence expected in the area of psychological assessment for psychologists eligible for the basic European Certificate in Psychology (the EuroPsy)*”. This document was developed from the EuroPsy regulations and their annexes and sets out a specification for how the education, training and supervised practice of psychologists could meet the Level 2 standard for competence in psychological assessment. Level 2 is the minimum level expected of psychologists involved in routine practitioner use of assessment. (Level 3 defines the competence expected of specialists in assessment). This was prepared as an internal advisory document for the EFPA European Awarding Committee to consider.

### **The work of the Test User Accreditation Committee (TUAC)**

The TUAC has continued its work under the auspices of the new Board and accreditation of the BPS Level 2 Occupational Test User qualification was confirmed in 2011. Award of the ‘*EuroTest*’ certificates began in the UK in February 2012 since when over 1000 registrations have been issued.

Work continues on the accreditation of test user qualifications in Sweden, Norway, Denmark and Poland. A preliminary submission for accreditation has been received from Sweden and is in the process of being revised.

“*A European Standard for Test Use*” provides a simple explanation of the EFPA test use standard and its potential use in test user certification. The EFPA EuroTest accreditation scheme is also explained. This document can be downloaded from the website.

### **Other contributions**

Members of the Board continue to be active in producing publications and contributions to conference that promote the work of EFPA and the Board. During 2012, the report on the survey carried out by the Board of psychologists’ testing practices was published (Evers et al, 2012).

As Convenor, I am grateful to the many members of the Board and of TUAC who have spent many hours, both in meetings and outside meetings, contributing to the tasks set for the various working groups. All have ensured we have produced outputs that meet the requirements of the diverse national and cultural conditions that exist across Europe. Together we have achieved these substantial and substantive outcomes.

I am stepping down from my role as Convenor of the Board of Assessment to take up Presidency of the ITC in 2014. However, I hope to remain an active member of the Board of Assessment and TUAC and continue to contribute to the important work it has been carrying out to enhance standards of prac-

tice in testing and assessment in Europe and beyond.

## Call for Nomination of Young Scholars for the Prestigious ITC Scholarship Program

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This is linked to the ITC 2014 conference in San Sebastian, Spain (2-5 July 2014) and is intended for early career scholars, under 35 years, having obtained at least a Master's Degree in the domain of psychological and/or educational testing from developing and emerging economies. Up to seven grants are available (€1,200 maximum per grant). **The application deadline is 15 January 2014.** Further information and applications: Dr Aletta Odendaal [aodendaal@uj.ac.za](mailto:aodendaal@uj.ac.za)

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Public Consultation: The ITC Statement on the Use of Tests and Other Assessment Instruments for Research Purposes

Weblinks

All public documents referred to available from:
www.efpa.eu/professional-development/assessment

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The ITC has developed a statement on the use of tests and other assessment instruments for research purposes. This document is not a Guideline, but an important contribution to clarity. The document is now ready for public consultation and has been uploaded onto the ITC webpage for you to comment on www.intestcom.org. Please send comments by March 15th to the ITC Secretary: secretary@intestcom.org.

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## Amendment of ITC Constitution and By-Laws

The International Test Commission's (ITC) Constitution and By-laws are amended occasionally to reflect changing needs and growth. In September-October 2013, we had such an amendment. A number of changes were proposed to increase efficiency.

- The maximum number of Council Members increased from 15 to 16. This increase has been made by raising the number of co-opted members on Council from 3 to 4. The additional co-opted position offers the option of inviting the outgoing President to stay on the Council in order to provide further continuity, without requiring the outgoing President to continue serving on the Executive Committee (as was the case when the ITC had a Past-President as an executive position).
- The co-opted members elected by Council will only hold office for two years, instead of four years, and the position is renewable for a maximum of four consecutive terms (i.e. eight years). The purpose of this change is to allow Council to co-opt those persons who will add importantly to the ITC's mission during a defined period and to facilitate the addition of new members to Council. The period of co-option is reduced from four to two years, with co-options renewable up to a maximum of eight years as a co-opted member.

## ITC2014: 9<sup>th</sup> Conference of the International Test Commission Global and Local Challenges for Best Practices in Assessment [itc2014ss@ehu.es](mailto:itc2014ss@ehu.es)

The 2014 Conference will be held in San Sebastian (Spain; 2-5 July 2014). Under the theme Global and Local Challenges for Best Practices in Assessment, ITC2014 will showcase new frontiers of assessment, as a means of improving and developing psychological and educational tests and test uses. The conference will address matters relating to testing and measurement, bringing together the best researchers and practitioners from around the world, delegates will meet those at the forefront of our discipline and practice and hear about cutting-edge developments in the field and be able to discuss how to resolve common concerns.

### Abstract Submission

On behalf of the International Test Commission it is my pleasure to remind you that the **abstract submission deadline** for the 9th Conference of the International Test Commission is **Wednesday 15th January 2014**.

The purpose of this change in term duration is to promote new membership on Council by limiting the number of years Council members may serve.

- The editors of the International Journal of Testing and Testing International be appointed following their approval by Council. Associate editors of the International Journal of Testing shall be selected and appointed by the editor or co-editors following consultation with members of Council. The editors of the International Journal of Testing and Testing International shall serve four-year terms, renewable subject to Council approval. The editor of the International Journal of Testing will serve as editor-elect for one additional year prior to assuming the role of editor. This proposed change clarifies the length of terms of office for editors of the International Journal of Testing and Testing International.

In order to implement these changes, the ITC held a Virtual Extraordinary General Meeting for the amendment of the ITC Constitution and By-Laws, this ran from September 19th to October 20th.

**The requested changes submitted by Council were approved and have been implemented. We thank all our members who got involved in this process for their support.** The ITC Constitution and By-laws are available on the ITC website.

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New Format for ITC Guidelines

The ITC Guidelines are among the most important outputs for our professional community. The ITC has an on-going programme of work on new Guidelines, as well as on the review and update of existing Guidelines. As part of this effort, *the ITC has recently developed a unified structure, format, and 'look and feel' for all our Guidelines.* The first two of the existing Guidelines have been updated in format and structure based on this unified scheme: the ITC Guidelines on Test Use, and the ITC Guidelines on Quality Control in Scoring, Test Analysis, and Reporting of Test Scores. None of the content of these Guidelines has been changed, but we hope that the changes to the format will make the documents more readable and usable for our members and any other interested parties. The Guidelines are available from: www.intestcom.org/guidelines/index.php

A Brazilian test to assess pathological personality characteristics: The Dimensional Clinical Personality Inventory (IDCP)

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According to Millon, Grossman and Tringone (2010), personality disorders are different styles or patterns, i.e., characteristics sets that last over time and situations of pathological personality functioning. As pointed out by Skodol et al. (2011), one will be diagnosed with personality disorder when exhibit relevant impairments related to the self and interpersonal functioning. In the international arena, there are several tools especially developed to pathological personality characteristics assessment, which in some cases allowing establish a personality disorder diagnosis. Dissimilar, despite a relatively expressive number of personality tests, in Brazil there is only a lowermost number of tools to professional application with the aim to evaluate pathological personality characteristics. It is noteworthy, in Brazil a psychological test must be approved by the Federal Council of Psychology (CFP) to be used in the professional practice. The approval is indicated by a Consultative Commission, namely, Psychological Tests Evaluation System (SATEPSI).

In order to fill this gap, Carvalho and Primi (2008) developed the Dimensional Personality Disorder Inventory (IDTP) to pathological personality characteristics assessment. IDTP was based on the integrative-evolutionary personality theory of Theodore Millon (Davis, 1999; Millon & Davis, 1996; Millon, Millon, Meagher, Grossman & Ramanath, 2004; Millon & Grossman, 2007a, 2007b; Strack & Millon, 2007). This tool showed good psychometric properties, which can be found elsewhere (Carvalho, 2008; Carvalho, Gurgel & Primi, 2011; Carvalho, Primi & Meyer, 2011; Carvalho & Primi, 2013). Nevertheless, Carvalho (2008) highlighted some notes, indicating future directions to IDTP. Specifically, the need to increase the construct representativeness of the characteristics assessed by the dimensions of IDTP. From this point, Carvalho and Primi (2011) developed a new version of the instrument, the Dimensional Clinical Personality Inventory (IDCP). This new tool was based on the IDTP, pathological characteristics of Millon's theory, and axis II of DSM-IV-TR (DSM-IV-TR, APA, 2003).

Further empirical support for construction of the dimensional perspective was garnered from Schroder, Wormworth and Livesley (1992). The IDCP is a self-

report inventory, consisting of 163 items, distributed across 12 dimensions. The dimensions are Dependence, Aggressiveness, Humor Instability, Eccentricity, Attention Seeking, Distrust, Grandiosity, Isolation, Criticism Avoidance, Self-Sacrifice, Conscientiousness, and Impulsivity (for further explanation about the dimensions, see Carvalho, 2011).

The items must be responded based on a 4-point Likert scale, varying between 1 (meaning “nothing to do with me”) and 4 (“all about me”). 1281 individuals answered the IDCP (1154 without psychiatric diagnosis and 127 patients with different psychiatric disorders), aging between 18 and 90 years old ($M=26.64$; $DP=8.94$), been 61.8% women. Carvalho (2011) proceeded to exploratory and confirmatory factorial analysis to internal structure investigation, as well as alphas’s Cronbach calculation to internal consistency verification. The internal consistency coefficients were satisfactory, considering the cut-off .70 (Nunally, 1978).

Carvalho also presented the internal structure data based on the Rasch Model, a mathematical model of Item Response Theory, which was equally satisfactory. Validity evidence based on the relation with external variables was verified, specifically, with the dimensions and facets of the NEO-PI-R inventory and with psychiatric diagnoses. In general, the expected relations between the tests were observed, indicating validity evidences for IDCP. However, Carvalho (2011) pointed to (a) some improvement needs in specific dimensions and (b) the importance of the continuous revision of the IDCP based on the scientific literature.

Considering that, Carvalho, Souza and Primi (in press) investigated the psychometric properties of the reviewed version of the Conscientiousness dimension and Carvalho, Sette, Capitão and Primi (in press) investigated the same properties of the reviewed version of the Attention Seeking dimension. In both cases, the authors adopted a 2-step procedure, new items development for the reviewed dimension (first step) and the psychometric properties verification of the dimension (step 2). In the first step, a new set of items was developed accordingly to specific sources, the personality disorders proposal (Chapter 3) to the fifth edition of DSM ([DSM-5]; APA, 2013), the dimensions of the Personality Inventory for DSM 5 ([PID-5]; Krueger; Derringer; Markon; Watson & Skodol, 2011), the dimensions of the Shedler-Westen Assessment Procedure ([SWAP]; Shedler & Westen, 2004), and the categories presented by Anna Clark (1990), underpinning for Schedule for Nonadaptive Personality (SNAP). In the second step, the IDCP with its reviewed dimensions was applied along other tools specially select depending on the dimensions. After the data collection, the authors performed some analysis allowing the investigation of (a) the internal structure

of the reviewed dimensions (exploratory factory analysis with confirmatory index), (b) internal consistency coefficients of the dimensions, and (c) the relation with external variables relevant to the constructs. We continue with the IDCP dimensions revision based on the mentioned sources.

This project is funded by the Fundação de Amparo à Pesquisa do Estado de São Paulo (FAPESP), a Brazilian foundation that provides grant for scientific research. The expectation is to have all IDCP dimensions reviewed in the next few years and also the approval of the instrument by the CFP, allowing professionals to use a national robust tool for personality pathological assessment.

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## Neuropsychological Profile of Parkinson's Disease Patients Indicated for the Deep Brain Stimulation Surgery

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Parkinson's Disease (PD) is considered a neurodegenerative disease very prevalent in the elderly population of all the world, which incidence tending to increase with the aging of the population observed in recent years. Its main features are associated with motor symptoms of bradykinesia, resting tremor, postural instability, and muscle rigidity. However, non-motor symptoms also affect the individual and are responsible for limitations and disabilities that impair the quality of life of these people (Levy & Ferreira, 2003).

Attenuation of symptoms is the primary aim of PD treatment, because there is not yet cure for this disease. Dopamine replacement is used as a treatment, since the disease involves a progressive degeneration in dopaminergic neurons. However, some individuals do not tolerate medication very well and have adverse reactions. Moreover, due to medication, cases of motor fluctuations and dyskinesias are common (Vasconcellos et al, 2009; Weng et al, 2004). In these cases, several publications have recommended neurosurgical treatment for PD. The candidates to surgery are patients with motor fluctuations, dyskinesias and/or uncontrolled tremor present on dopaminergic treatment; and patients that have intolerance to the medication. It is also important that patients have the PD diagnosis for at least five years, because patients with shorter disease can have atypical Parkinsonism, in which case, the surgical outcome is not indicated. This way, it is extremely important to identify patients who are most likely to benefit from DBS, because it is the first step to a successful surgery (Nasser et al, 2002; Silberman et al, 2013; Tedrus 2009).

The preoperative evaluation for DBS surgery includes criteria related to age, neuropsychological and neuropsychiatric disorders and comorbidity. Besides, there is a protocol to be considered in the selection of patients, including the patient's response to levodopa before the surgery, the best predictor of positive response to surgery. Surgery is contraindicated in cases of severe cognitive impairment. However, the effects of chronic brain stimulation in relation to cognitive, behavioral and mood functions are not well understood by neuroscience. The results of the publications are contradictory, based on short-term follow-ups and small samples. (Tosta, 2010).

The DBS is already being held at the Santa Casa de Misericórdia de Porto Alegre, a hospital located in the southern part of Brazil, with good results in the con-

ontrol of motor symptoms. At the Center where the surgery is performed, is currently being developed a research, coordinated by Psychologist Prof. Caroline Reppold, whose objective is to evaluate the frequency and severity of neuropsychological dysfunction of patients treated with PD listed to the neurosurgical procedure. These results will allow the description of psychological and neuropsychological profile of the Parkinson's Disease population treated at this hospital before the surgery. The data from this research will also contribute to the team's assessment of the best clinical procedure to be adopted and improve the interdisciplinary treatment of each patient evaluated. All the patients that full filled the project's inclusion criteria and attended the center from May 2013 to May 2014, will be included in the sample.

The evaluation included the administration of the following instruments: Wisconsin Card Sorting Test (WCST), Montreal Cognitive Assessment ( MoCA ), Mini Mental State Examination ( MMSE ) , Frontal Assessment Battery ( FAB ) , Beck Scale ( BAI and BDI ) , Battery Factor Personality, Verbal Fluency Test ( phonemic and semantic categories ), Parkinson's Disease Questionary ( PDQ -39 ), Parkinson's Disease Sleeping Scale ( PDSS ), UPDRS and Hoehn - Yahr, used for describing the progression and staging of Parkinson's Disease . The research has the consent of the hospital and university, has been approved by the Ethics Committee of the Brazilian Research, and adopts all procedures to conform to the ethical principles involved in the research, including voluntary and anonymity participation. The data will complement the current literature on the neuropsychological aspects involved in the disease, especially with regard to the cognitive and emotional domains related to the manifestation of Parkinson's Disease and its neurosurgical treatment. At the moment, the evaluation of each patient will provide subsidies to increase interdisciplinary clinical practice. The objective is, in the future, that the research turns into a proposal for psychological and neuropsychological longitudinal evaluation, watching them in the pre -surgical period and also in different segments of the post-surgical, in particular with regard to the emotional changes and developments related to executive functions and language skills.

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## BOOK REVIEW

### **A Review of Pruebas Publicadas en Español [Tests Published in Spanish]: An Index of Spanish Tests in Print**

Editors: Schlueter, J., Carlson, J., Geisinger, K., & Murphy, L.

Publisher: The Buros Center for Testing,  
The University of Nebraska-Lincoln  
ISBN 978-0-910674-64-5

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln's Buros Centre for Testing has played a leading role in facilitating access to information on English language tests for approximately 75 years. This 2013 publication extends its services by providing otherwise hard-to-obtain and valuable information on 422 standardized tests that either were published in Spanish or translated into Spanish.

#### **Book Purposes**

The purposes of the *Pruebas Publicadas en Español* are to compile and describe currently available standardized Spanish language tests in an effort to facilitate their appropriate selection by those engaged in clinical and research practices. The book's content is provided in both Spanish and English.

#### **Topics Addressed**

Those who have used *Buros' Test in Print* will find a familiar format, one that provides information on the following seven topics: a comprehensive bibliography of commercially available tests; an index of tests titles; a list of test acronyms; a classified subject index that also describes the population for which each test is intended; a publishers directory and index, including contact information and test listings by publisher; an index of names of all test authors, reviewers, translators, and adaptors; and an index of scores generated by the tests.

#### **Bibliographic Information On Each Test**

Users are likely to draw heavily on information provided in the comprehensive bibliography of commercially available tests. It provides the following information on each test: the test's title and original name, its purpose, country and language of origin, the intended population for test use, norms, publication date, the acronym of its name, the number of part scores, whether it is group or individually administered, forms/parts/levels, price, approximate administration time, names of the authors/translators/adaptors, publisher, sublistings (e.g., levels, editions, subtests in separate booklets), the test's Spanish and English components, as well as cross references to any *Mental Measurement Yearbook* reviews.

#### **Other Interesting and Relevant Information**

Among the 422 tests, 31% assess personality, 13% assess vocational issues, 12% intelligence and general aptitude, 9% developmental abilities, with smaller percents in twelve other categories. This coverage is similar to that found in *Tests in Print VII*. The tests were published in 3 countries i.e. Argentina, Spain, and the United States by 51 publishers, most of whom publish one or two tests. In contrast, Spain's TEA Ediciones publishes 200 tests.

#### **Conclusion**

The book provides a unique and exceptional resource for psychologists and others who work with Spanish speaking populations. Its information is provided in a user-friendly and succinct manner. The increase in the numbers of persons who use Spanish as their first language as well as immigration trends make this publication timely and practical.

Thomas Oakland, Emeritus Professor  
University of Florida

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