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Measurement Scale Fact Sheet

Physical Abuse of Partner Scale (PAPS)

The Physical Abuse of Partner Scale, or PAPS, measures the degree or magnitude of perceived physical abuse which a client reports they have imposed on a spouse or partner. The PAPS scale was developed for use with heterosexual and homosexual couples who are dating or who live together as married or unmarried couples. The principal use of the scale is in working with the abusive partner in the treatment of domestic violence.

Score Interpretation

The scale produces scores that range from 0 to 100. For all practical purposes the scores can be regarded as true ratio scale values.

Cutting Scores

A clinical cutting score is not presently available for the scale. It is strongly suspected that the cutting score will be considerably lower than 30, although data are not yet available to confirm that. We offer this conjecture primarily to suggest that cutting score of 30 must not be presumed. Clinical evidence to date indicates the clinical cutting score could be as low as 15, but this has not yet been confirmed through systematic research.

Reliability

This scale consistently achieves an Alpha coefficient of .90 or larger.

Validity

This scale has been investigated with respect to content, construct, factorial, and known groups validity. It nearly always achieves validity coefficients of .60 or greater.

Readability Statistics

Flesch Reading Ease: 79; Gunning's Fog Index: 7; Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level: 5.

References

The following references provide the currently available research evidence concerning the psychometric characteristics for this measure.

Hudson, MacNeil & Dierks, 1995.



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PAPS

PHYSICAL ABUSE OF PARTNER SCALE

Name _____

Date _____

SAMPLE

This questionnaire is designed to measure the physical abuse you have delivered upon your partner. This is not a test, so there are no right or wrong answers. Answer each item as carefully and as accurately as you can by circling a number between each one as follows:

- 1 = None of the time
- 2 = Very rarely
- 3 = A little of the time
- 4 = Some of the time
- 5 = A good part of the time
- 6 = Most of the time
- 7 = All of the time

1. _____ I physically force my partner to have sex.
2. _____
3. _____ I hit and punch my partner's arms and body.
4. _____ I threaten my partner with a weapon.
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____ I beat my partner when I'm drinking.
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____ I beat my partner in the face so that he or she is ashamed to be seen in public.
12. _____
13. _____
14. _____
15. _____ I knock my partner down and then kick or stomp him or her.
16. _____ I twist my partner's fingers, arms, or legs.
17. _____
18. _____
19. _____ I violently pinch or twist my partner's skin.
20. _____ I hurt my partner while we're having sex.
21. _____
22. _____
23. _____ I poke or jab my partner with pointed objects.
24. _____ I have broken one or more of my partner's bones.
25. _____