0067

Development of the Communication Skill Scale for Occupational Therapy Students in Japan

Eriko Masuyama[1], Hisayoshi Suzuki[1], Takayuki Okuhara[1], Hiroyuki Sakuda[1], Toyoko Nozaki[1], Keiichiro Saito[1], Aya Osawa[2], Yoshifumi Yamaguchi[1]
[1]School of Nursing and Rehabilitation Sciences, Showa University, Yokohama, Japan, [2]Tokyo Medical And Dental University Hospital faculty Medicine, Tokyo, Japan

Introduction: To enhancement of quality of the occupational therapy, communication skill of the occupational therapist can be significant factor. The occupational therapists have been paid careful attention to the relations between patients and them. However, the occupational therapy students on the clinical fieldwork lack in communication skills in order to introduce the occupational therapy smoothly. So, if they can evaluate their own communication skills, it would help them adjust to self-examination on communication skills with patients.

Objective: The purpose of this study was to develop a self rating scale to measure communication skill for occupational therapy students.

Methods: The participants were 259 occupational therapy students and the efficient answers of 176 occupational therapy student's data were used for factor analysis. 43 items of this scale were made and participants answered the questionnaire. We conducted exploratory factor analysis with promax rotation. Construct validity was determined using confirmatory factor analysis and internal consistency was assessed using Cronbach's alpha.

Results: The final instrument was composed of 29 items and the exploratory analysis yielded 5 factors. (1) introduction of the relations (2) interpreting of non-verbal behavior (3) expressive of non-verbal behavior (4) agreement with others (5) address the alleviation of tension. The scales showed high internal consistency (Cronbach's alpha = 0.89). Using confirmatory factor analysis, the 5 factors model provided best fit (chi-square = 21.313, df = 5, GFI = 0.953, CFI = 0.922, AIC = 41.313, RMSEA = 0.137).

Conclusion: The developed self rating scale to measure communication skill for occupational therapy students has adequate reliability and validity. The scale can be potentially used as a measure of communication skill for occupational therapy students. Further examination of the scale with a large sample size is needed.