

Features of Japanese healthy persons by occupation based on the Community Integration Questionnaire (CIQ)

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Introductions:

The Community Integration Questionnaire for evaluating patients with traumatic brain injury consists of three subscales: Home Integration, Social Integration and Productive Activity. The sub-scores enable the qualitative assessment of community integration.

Objective:

Previous studies had found that age and gender influenced the Japanese CIQ score. This study was aimed at identifying characteristics of CIQ scoring of different occupational groups in Japan.

Methods:

We interviewed 785 healthy men and women using the CIQ.

Results:

Total scores were compared among different occupational groups, including the unemployed, farmers, self-employed, company employees, housewives, and high-school and university students. Housewives scored significantly higher than other groups. Unemployed persons and high-school students scored significantly lower. According to the comparison by gender of each occupational group, unemployed men scored significantly lower while unemployed women and high-school girls scored significantly lower. In almost all groups, women scored higher.

Looking into sub-scores, in HI, high-school students scored significantly lower regardless of gender while housewives scored higher. In almost all groups, women scored significantly higher than men.

As for SI, in almost all groups, women scored significantly higher.

In PA, however, the unemployed group scored significantly lower regardless of gender. Housewives scored significantly lower. All groups showed no significant gender difference.

Conclusion:

The comparisons of different occupational groups in this study resulted in lower PA and thus lower total scores in the unemployed group. Significantly lower HI scores in high-school students might reflect dependence of Japanese high-school students on their families for housework regardless of gender. Scores in university students with no gender difference might reflect their lifestyle: both male and female students study, work part-time and do housework. Women in all groups showed higher total, HI and SI scores, reflecting the CIQ structure with many housework-related items and responsibility Japanese women shoulder for housework. The results supported previous studies reporting higher CIQ scores in Japanese women. No gender difference was observed in PA in any group as women with full-time jobs scored as high as men who often work full-time, suggesting the importance of taking occupational background into consideration in interpreting the CIQ data.