

Calibrating the German version of the Pediatric Evaluation Disability Inventory (PEDI): the procedure

Christina Schulze¹, Christoph Künzle², Julie Page¹

¹*Institute of Occupational Therapy, Winterthur, Switzerland*, ²*Departement Rehabilitation and Development, Ostschweizer Kinderspital, St. Gallen, Switzerland*

Introduction

Current developments in the health sector have promoted the necessity of having valid and reliable assessments in practice in Switzerland. Occupational therapists as a member of a caring profession are concerned with the integration of people with disabilities into community living and the promotion of their full participation in society. The PEDI gathers information on functional performance and measures a child's capability and skill in performing selected functional activities. The PEDI is one of the most commonly used assessments for children with disabilities originally designed for the use in the USA. However the PEDI has not been calibrated for the German speaking countries.

Objective

To illustrate the extensive procedure of calibrating an assessment, specifically the PEDI.

Method

The procedure of calibrating includes the following steps:

Translation and Adaptation

- Translation
- Synthesis
- Back translation
- Expert committee review
- Content validity and clinical feasibility

Evaluation of psychometric properties

- Reliability (inter-interviewer, test-retest, internal consistency)
- Discriminative validity

Translation of the PEDI manual

Development normative values

Results

Experiences from the calibration procedure of the German version of the PEDI are presented. Aspects to be considered will be highlighted (e.g. copyright issues).

Conclusion

The necessity for valid and reliable assessments for occupational therapy is undoubted. The procedure of adapting an existing assessment and calibrating it for another culture is less resource intensive than developing a new one. This procedure is a long one and it is important to carefully select the assessment.

Contribution to the practice / evidence base of occupational therapy.

The calibration procedure results in reliable and valid instruments that improve practice and health interventions in the interest of the client.