

Developing culturally-sensitive measures of participation: Important contribution to culturally-appropriate interventions, evidence-based practice, and occupation-based practice

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Implementing occupation-based practice is a complex task when adequate assessment tools, meaning culturally-appropriate and evidence-based, do not exist. Currently, very few measures exist that enable occupational therapist to assess occupational participation across cultures. The purpose of two separated studies was to adequately translate into Spanish and culturally-adapt the Activity Card Sort (Baum & Edwards, 2001) and the Children's Assessment of Participation and Enjoyment & Preferences for Activities of Children (King, et al. 2004) for use with Hispanic populations. The complex multi-step test translation and cultural adaptation processes will be presented. These methodological studies consisted of a nine-step process for test translation and cultural adaptation involving various groups of stakeholders and experts. The test translation committee included expert translators and content experts. Qualitative and quantitative exercises to culturally adapt the measures were performed with focus groups and various expert panels. These processes will be discussed to support the content validity of the measures. Field-test data of the Spanish measures will also be presented; which yielded evidence of validity based on test content, internal structure and test construct. Known group comparison, factor analysis, internal consistency of the scales assessed, and test-retest analyses support the use of the newly adapted assessments for the intended populations. These studies help us develop knowledge and skill about cross cultural adaptation of occupation-based instruments. It also helps to recognize the central role of culturally adequate practices to enhance occupation-based and evidenced-based practices.