

Manual Ability Classification System: Procedure for the translation and adaptation into Portuguese and evaluation of reliability

Daniela Baleroni Rodrigues Silva, Carolina Araujo Rodrigues Funayama, Luzia Iara Pfeifer
University of Ribeirão Preto Medical School – University of Sao Paulo, Ribeirao Preto/ Sao Paulo, Brazil

Introduction: The Manual Ability Classification System (MACS) aims to classify how children with cerebral palsy use their hands when handling objects in daily activities. The classification refers to the age of 4 to 18 years and consists of 5 levels ranging from I to V.

Objective: Perform the translation and adaptation to Portuguese of the Manual Ability Classification System; to determine the reliability among parents and occupational therapists in Brazil, of this assessment.

Methods: The procedure for translation of the Manual Ability Classification System will be made in six steps: 1. The Portuguese translation will be done by 2 professional translators; 2. Synthesis the content of both translations into a single version; 3. Backward translation (portuguese back to english); 4. Committee for examination to review the translations and version "pre-final"; 5. Submitting the version "pre-final" to the authors; 6. Pre-test. In the pre-test will take part 10 children aged between 4 and 18 who will be classified by the researcher related to MACS to check whether the language is appropriate. After performing the pre-test, will take part 100 children with cerebral palsy and their parents and an occupational therapist. The parent will classify the child according to the levels of MACS as well as an occupational therapist will observe the child during the clinical care. To assess the reliability of the classifications will be used the Kappa statistic and the degree of association between the scores will be estimated by the Spearman correlation coefficient.

Results and Conclusions: The process of translation into Portuguese was authorized by the author and this research is in the initial phase of the translation process.

Contribution to the practice/evidence base of occupational therapy: Although the Manual Ability Classification System had been developed recently, it has been widely used in research and clinical practice by facilitating the communication between different health professionals. This highlights the importance of the process of translation and adaptation for different languages. Furthermore, when asking to families to classify their child's ability, they provide additional information about children's performance in different contexts and environments.