Author's response to reviews

Title: CANFOR Portuguese Version: validation study

Authors:

Miguel Talina (miguel.talina@fcm.unl.pt)
Stuart Thomas (stuart.thomas@monash.edu.au)
Ana Cardoso (amargaridapc@gmail.com)
Pedro Aguiar (pedroaquiar@ensp.unl.pt)
Jose M Caldas de Almeida (caldasjm@fcm.unl.pt)
Miguel Xavier (miguel.xavier@fcf.unl.pt)

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Author's response to reviews: see over
This cover letter concerns the validation study of the Portuguese version of Camberwell Assessment of Needs – Forensic Version (CANFOR) and details all the changes made after the peer review.

On behalf of the research team I am pleased to send you this research paper and our request to be published. We also would like to thank all the reviewers for their comments in order to improve this paper.

**Reviewer 1 (Dr. A. Hassiotis):**

However, there are a few essential minor revisions. The paragraph: “In order to emphasize the higher significant associations between unmet needs and BPRS’s scales only the associations with a p value less than 0.01 will be displayed in Tables 7 and 8” does not fully represent what the statistician has commented on. The authors need to report that they are making conservative estimates of significant findings in order to minimise the problems associated with multiple testing, thus they will report only associations that have reached a p value of less than 0.01.

1. **The paragraph mentioned was rewrite (page 13):**

   In order to minimise the problems associated with multiple testing, only the significant differences between means that attained a p value less than 0.01 are displayed in Tables 6 and 7.

Also, there is still a need to re-examine the grammar; e.g. the word “congruency” (convergent validity, last para) does not exist, should be congruence.

2. **Word corrected and other corrections were made all over the manuscript.**

**Reviewer 2 (Dr. Miao-Yu Y Tsai):**

1. The authors responded that they use the Mann–Whitney U test to compare the values of BPRS scales scores from the group of subjects who scored “unmet need” with those from the group of subjects who scored “other score”, and therefore the two groups are independent. However, the authors mentioned that “it was performed an association analysis between the “unmet needs” scores of
CANFOR domains, rated by the service users and the staff, and the BPRS scales’ scores. In order to emphasize the higher significant associations between unmet needs and BPRS’s scales……” on page 12 and “the analysis of convergence between CANFOR domains’ unmet needs and BPRS scales scores revealed interesting results.” on page 14. These sentences imply that the authors use the Mann–Whitney U test to compare the scores of CANFOR domains with the BPRS scales’ scores based on the same observations. Do I misunderstand the analysis of convergence? Besides, the organization of Tables 6 and 7 would mislead readers that the Mann–Whitney U test is used to compare the difference between the scores of CANFOR domains and the BPRS scales’ scores. A clear description for this analysis and reorganization of tables would have helped.

1. We agreed that previous version was not clear about the analysis purpose and tried to clarify the use of Mann-Whitney test by rewritten this paragraph (page 12):
   Subsequently, tests were run on the presence of differences in the BPRS mean scores between the FPSUs with unmet need scores, as rated by themselves and staff, and the FPSUs without unmet need scores.

2. The term “service users” still appears many times and should be all corrected as “forensic psychiatric service users (FPSUs).

   2. Done. The term “service users” has been changed for FPSUs.

3. Page 12, “Tables 7 and 8” should be corrected as “Tables 6 and 7”.

   3. Done. The Tables number has been corrected.

We hope that you find our paper satisfactory and you could consider it for publication.

Yours sincerely,

Miguel Talina

Miguel Cotrim Talina, MD, MSc
Psychiatrist
CEDOC/FCM-UNL Researcher
Campo Mártires da Pátria, 130, Lisbon, Portugal
miguel.talina@fcm.unl.pt