Reviewer’s report

Title: Perceived coercion in psychiatric hospital admission: Validation of the French-language version of the MacArthur’s Admission Experience Survey

Version: 0 Date: 01 Oct 2017

Reviewer: Ralph E. Schmidt

Reviewer's report:

The manuscript on the development of a French version of the "MacArthur's Admission Experience Survey" is generally well written and the validation has been properly conducted. In what follows, I will make a few suggestions as to how the manuscript could be further improved.

Major points:

* Methods, p. 3, line 21: The authors used item response theory (IRT) to evaluate the newly developed scale. IRT allows to assess the relations between items, scales, and latent constructs in a variety of ways (e.g., Q indexes, total information curves, and mean-to-latent score scatter plots). By using these options, the authors could go beyond previous publications.

* Methods, p. 6, line 35, and throughout the manuscript: Please specify in more detail how differences between the original English version and the back-translation were dealt with. I have never seen a back-translation that was identical to the original version.

Minor points:

* The whole manuscript should be proofread by a native English speaker. Although it is generally well written, it contains some semantic and grammatical errors. For instance, "the patient remember" (p. 7, line 20) instead of "remembers", "all others items" (p. 7, line 22) instead of "all other items", "participated to" (p. 8, line 2) instead of "participated in".

* Abstract: Please substitute „verify psychometric properties" with "assess" or "evaluate". In empirical research, hypotheses can be supported or falsified but never verified (see writings of Karl Popper).

* Procedure, p. 8, line 42, and throughout the manuscript: The authors had better use "positively" or "negatively correlated" instead of "score would be of opposite sign".
* Conclusion: The introductory passage about Philippe Pinel is interesting but somehow disconnected from the rest of the conclusion and the whole manuscript. The authors might want to use and expand it in the Background part.

**Are the methods appropriate and well described?**
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

**Does the work include the necessary controls?**
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Unable to assess

**Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?**
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes

**Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?**
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

I am able to assess the statistics

**Quality of written English**
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Needs some language corrections before being published

**Declaration of competing interests**
Please complete a declaration of competing interests, considering the following questions:

1. Have you in the past five years received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

2. Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

3. Do you hold or are you currently applying for any patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

4. Have you received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organization that holds or has applied for patents relating to the content of the manuscript?
5. Do you have any other financial competing interests?

6. Do you have any non-financial competing interests in relation to this paper?

If you can answer no to all of the above, write 'I declare that I have no competing interests' below. If your reply is yes to any, please give details below.

I declare that I have no competing interests.

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal. I understand that my name will be included on my report to the authors and, if the manuscript is accepted for publication, my named report including any attachments I upload will be posted on the website along with the authors' responses. I agree for my report to be made available under an Open Access Creative Commons CC-BY license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/). I understand that any comments which I do not wish to be included in my named report can be included as confidential comments to the editors, which will not be published.

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal.