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ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Psychometric properties of the Spanish version of the Personal Outcomes Scale



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Abstract Personal outcomes-related quality of life provides information about the impact of individualized supports and services that are provided to people with intellectual disability. The Personal Outcomes Scale (POS) is a valid and reliable instrument that measures these outcomes using two parts, self-report and report by others. Based on the POS, the aim of this study is to provide a new psychometric study of the instrument that allows the evaluation of the three principal informers involved in the enhancement of individual's quality of life: individual with intellectual disability, professional and family member. This approach overcomes the limitations of the POS. For the self-report were involved 529 people with intellectual disability. A professional ($N = 522$) and a family member ($N = 462$) separately participated for the report by others versions to assess personal outcomes for each participant. The reliability study provides appropriate values for the first and second order factors with α values being higher than .82. The construct validity analysis provides an adjustment of the theoretical model, particularly regarding the assessments from professionals. Results show this instrument is adequate to evaluate personal outcomes and giving the guidelines for making policy and practice decisions.

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PALABRAS CLAVE

Discapacidad
intelectual;
Escala de Resultados
Personales;

Propiedades psicométricas de la Versión Española de la Escala de Resultados Personales

Resumen Los resultados personales relacionados con la calidad de vida aportan información sobre el impacto de los apoyos individualizados y servicios ofrecidos a las personas con discapacidad intelectual. La Escala de Resultados Personales (ERP) es un instrumento válido

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y fiable que evalúa estos resultados en base a dos partes, el autoinforme y el informe de los otros. Basándonos en la ERP, el objetivo es ofrecer un nuevo estudio psicométrico de este instrumento contemplando la participación de los tres informadores implicados en la mejora de la calidad de vida: la persona con discapacidad intelectual, el profesional y un miembro de la familia. Esta aproximación supera los límites de la ERP. Para el autoinforme han participado 529 personas con discapacidad intelectual. El profesional ($N=522$) y el miembro de la familia ($N=462$) han participado separadamente en las versiones correspondientes. El estudio de fiabilidad aporta valores apropiados para los factores de primer y segundo orden ($\alpha \geq .82$). El análisis de la validez de constructo se ajusta al modelo teórico, particularmente en los profesionales. Según los resultados, este instrumento es adecuado para evaluar resultados personales y aportar información válida para las prácticas profesionales y las políticas sociales.

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The concept of quality of life (QoL), which is understood to be a sensitizing notion in the field of intellectual disability (ID), has shifted towards a measurable construct that is expressed in terms of personal outcomes (Schalock, Gardner, & Bradley, 2007; Schalock & Verdugo, 2002). These outcomes are understood to be "person-defined and valued aspirations. Personal outcomes are generally defined in reference to QoL domains and indicators" (Schalock et al., 2007, p. 14). It is quite logical, then, to believe that personal outcomes can be used as a reference for the services and support that are provided to people with ID (Luckasson & Schalock, 2013a; Schalock & Verdugo, 2012a, 2012b; van Loon et al., 2013). Personal outcomes make sense within a QoL model. Regarding people with ID the most commonly used is the model by Schalock and Verdugo (2002). It is characterized by a hierarchical, multidimensional structure and includes both etic (universal) and emic (cultural) components. The eight dimensions of this model have been empirically validated in different cultures and countries (Jenaro et al., 2005; Schalock et al., 2005) and are arranged into three higher-order factors (Wang, Schalock, Verdugo, & Jenaro, 2010): (1) Independence, which includes the dimensions of personal development and self-determination; (2) Social Participation, which includes dimensions of interpersonal relations, social inclusion, and rights; and (3) Well-being, which includes the dimensions of emotional well-being, physical well-being, and material well-being.

In order to fully understand this model, we have to consider the ecological vision of disability, which is defined by the individual's three developmental environments (Bronfenbrenner & Morris, 1998): microsystem, mesosystem, and macrosystem. It is in these environments that valuable personal outcomes are expected to be achieved. This view is observed in the programs and services supplied to people with ID, which are not standard or predictable and have become support systems based on individualization (Luckasson & Schalock, 2013b; Schalock et al., 2007). The ecological perspective is closely linked to the paradigm of supports that places emphasis on the idea that the provision of individualized supports reduces the inconsistency between the individual's capacities and the environment's demands. Thus, the main purpose of organization should be

the identification and provision of the supports using the Individualized Supports Plans (ISP). This is accomplished as a result of a support team composed by the individual, family member and staff which everyone plays an essential role to enhance desired outcomes (Buntinx & Schalock, 2010; Luckasson & Schalock, 2013a; Schalock, Bonham, & Verdugo, 2008; Thompson et al., 2009).

In order to properly evaluate and use personal outcomes, it is necessary to have measurement instruments with satisfactory psychometric properties that are based on an empirically validated QoL model (Arias, Verdugo, Navas, & Gómez, 2013; Jenaro et al., 2005; Schalock et al., 2005; Wang et al., 2010). Authors disagree about whether QoL assessment should include, on the one hand, the measurement of subjective well-being (including individual preferences) or, on the other, objective life circumstances and experiences (Schalock & Felce, 2004; Schalock et al., 2007). Although authors disagree about whether the objective or subjective perspective should be taken in regard to QoL, the soundest proposal is based on a combination of these perspectives (Ayaso-Maneiro, Domínguez-Prado, & García-Soidan, 2014; Cummins, 2005; Schalock & Felce, 2004; Schalock et al., 2007).

The Personal Outcomes Scale (POS) takes this approach and is a useful tool when studying the impact of support strategies that are provided to people with ID (van Loon, Van Hove, Schalock, & Claes, 2008). This scale was designed to assess, firstly, people with ID and, secondly, the perspectives of proxies (professionals or family members). Thus, this instrument contributes to the debate regarding the use of subjective or objective measures including different points of view in order to assess the QoL construct (Balboni, Coscarelli, Giunti, & Schalock, 2013; Claes, Vandevelde et al., 2012).

Related to the significance of assessing personal outcomes based on individual evaluations and proxies, the objective of this study is to provide a new psychometric study of this measurement instrument that allows us to examine the perspective of each participant involved in the ISP. Until now, the report of the others of the POS is used for both professional and family, but a specific scale is required for each one. Nowadays there are instruments

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