

Reports and Reviews

The Adaptation of the IBQR VSF Questionnaire to the Czech Environment (Adaptace dotazníku IBQR VSF pro české prostředí)

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The Research Report presented by Miloň Potměšil and Petra Potměšilová, in the 5th ic-CSBs 2017, The Annual International Conference on Cognitive-Social, and Behavioural Sciences, published in the European Proceedings of Social & Behavioural Sciences (EPSBS), 2017, 9 pp., ISSN 2357-1330 <http://dx.doi.org/10.15405/epsbs.2017.01.02.26>

Adaptation of the IBQR VSF questionnaire to the Czech environment is one of the available articles on a temperament assessment instrument that has been modified and translated into the Czech language. It serves as a tool to describe the child's temperament at the age of 3–12 months.

The research focuses on the adaptation process that helps modify and translate the IBQR VSF temperament assessment instruments into Czech based on Rothbart's theoretical approach. The authors define temperament as a way individuals react to the social and emotional stimuli of their immediate environment. The features of the individual's temperament are already clearly identifiable in infancy and are relatively stable in the course of the child's maturation. They further explain temperament as a complex phenomenon consisting of the following parameters; Activity level, Distress

to limitations, Approach, Fear, Duration of orienting, Smiling and Laughter, Vocal Reactivity, Sadness, Perceptual Sensitivity, High and/or Low Intensity Pleasure, Cuddliness, Soothability, and Falling Reactivity (Rothbart, 1981; Putnam et al., 2014, 2006; Gartstein & Rothbart, 2003).

Potměšil and Potměšilová offer an insight of the studied and evaluated infant temperament tools such as "The Bayley Scales of Infant Development" (BSID) used for evaluating cognitive, behavioural, and motor development of a child from the first to twenty-fourth month of age and the "Buehler Baby Test" for evaluation of the development of a child at the given age. The Neurobehavioural Assessment of the Preterm Infant for diagnosis of the level of maturity and potential deviation in children.

The authors introduce the most important and attention deserving tool called the Infant Behaviour Questionnaire (Rothbart, 1981), which focuses on six areas of baby temperament, namely: activity level, soothability, fear, distress to limitations, smiling and laughter, and duration of orienting. Moreover, Potměšil and Potměšilová ascertain that the IBQ tool was revised by its author and Maria A. Gartstein in the same year, with the latest revision of the questionnaire by Samuel Putnam (2014) and his team which is referred to as IBQ-Revised (IBQ-R). The authors affirm that there are short (91 items; 14 scales) and very short (36 items; 3 broad scales) versions of the IBQ-R.

Potměšil and Potměšilová acknowledge that the tool is a combination of approaches to special pedagogy and psychology to infant temperament which allows identification of children with signs of developmental retardation. The IBQ-R allows a more accurate targeting of the intervention programme, encouragement of parental cooperation and support for their ability to observe their child's behaviour, describe its manifestation, and understand their child's reaction better.

The authors postulate the problem of the statement, research questions and purpose of the study with the aim to adapt the existing IBQ-R questionnaire for the specific environment of the Czech Republic. The task was not only its translation but also modifications of the individual items to make them correspond to the specific cultural and linguistic features of the Czech environment (Gartstein, 2006). More so, the authors explain in detail stages involved in writing, modifying, translating and administering of the IBQ-R questionnaire to suit in specific linguistic and cultural environment of the Czech Republic in their research method. The list of modifications is also inclusive. Potměšil and Potměšilová present the findings using the procedure used by Rothbart (1981) and the respondents are subdivided into three age categories (3–6 months, 7–9 months and 10–12 months). Using the Cronbach's alpha to determine the reliability of the adapted questionnaire. Finally, the authors conclude the research as follows:

- Out of 426 respondents, 48% were boys and 52% girls. The mean ages of the two group were 8.8 and 8.9 months respectively.
- The Cronbach's alpha values of the individual scales for boys and girls are sufficient for it to be possible to state that the adapted version of the questionnaire is reliable.

- Means values for the individual scales were calculated for boys and girls in the individual age categories.
- The most frequently occurring values (MOD) were calculated to show more accurate values.
- The results obtained will be offered to psychologists specializing in diagnosing children in early age groups and
- The Czech Version of the final IBQR-VSF questionnaire will be available on the authors' website.

The article looks into various definitions of temperament ranging from the individual behavioural development, reaction to social and emotional stimuli, to biologically conditioned differences. It also offers the insight of the tools used for evaluation of infants' temperament. The authors' choice of this tool is based on cooperation with parents, which gives room for more accurate targeting of the intervention programme and services, and encouragement of parental support for their ability to observe their child's behaviour, describe its manifestations and understand their child's reactions better. The authors' study is not only to obtain a valid tool that focuses on paediatric psychologists but to get a functional aid for working with parents of infants with health or developmental risks. This study has opened a new research project opportunity that focuses on babies of mothers treated for alcohol and other addictions. Conclusively, this research provides the Czech version of the IBQR-VSF questionnaire which will be very useful as a temperament assessment instrument in the country.

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