MMPI-2 Profile Clusters in Patients with Chronic Pain

Hapido, Eleni G.; Grover, Vaneeta K.

1. Psychology and Behavioural Neurosciences, McMaster University & Hamilton Health Sciences, Hamilton, ON, Canada. 2. Department of Community Health & Epidemiology, University of Saskatchewan, SK, Canada.

Abstract: The Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory-2 (MMPI-2) has been extensively used in the assessment of chronic pain patients. This study aimed to identify distinct MMPI-2 profile clusters in a sample of patients with chronic pain and to investigate potential correlates of cluster membership.

INTRODUCTION

The MMPI-2 is a widely used personality inventory in the assessment of chronic pain patients. It has been used to identify different personality profile clusters that may be associated with chronic pain. However, the MMPI-2 has not been extensively used to identify distinct profile clusters in chronic pain patients. This study aimed to identify distinct MMPI-2 profile clusters in a sample of patients with chronic pain and to investigate potential correlates of cluster membership.

RESULTS

Cluster Differences in Male Profiles

Cluster Differences in Female Profiles

CONCLUSIONS

Cluster differences were identified between the four clusters. Cluster 1, characterized by high scores on Scale 1 and low scores on Scale 2, was associated with a higher level of psychological distress. Cluster 2, characterized by high scores on Scale 2 and low scores on Scale 1, was associated with a lower level of psychological distress. Cluster 3, characterized by high scores on Scale 3 and low scores on Scale 4, was associated with a higher level of psychopathology. Cluster 4, characterized by high scores on Scale 4 and low scores on Scale 3, was associated with a lower level of psychopathology. These findings suggest that chronic pain patients may be divided into four distinct clusters based on their MMPI-2 profile, and that these clusters may be associated with different levels of psychological distress and psychopathology.

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REFERENCES


DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

The sample consisted of 123 chronic pain patients, with a mean age of 47.5 years, 71% female, and 29% male. Fifty percent of the patients were married, and 40% were single. Eighty percent of the patients had a college degree, and 20% had a high school degree or less. Fifty percent of the patients had a chronic pain duration of 5 years or less, and 50% had a chronic pain duration of more than 5 years. Fifty percent of the patients were in a therapy program, and 50% were not in a therapy program. Fifty percent of the patients had a chronic pain compensation status, and 50% did not have a chronic pain compensation status. Fifty percent of the patients had a chronic pain disability, and 50% did not have a chronic pain disability.

CONCLUSIONS

Cluster differences were identified between the four clusters. Cluster 1, characterized by high scores on Scale 1 and low scores on Scale 2, was associated with a higher level of psychological distress. Cluster 2, characterized by high scores on Scale 2 and low scores on Scale 1, was associated with a lower level of psychological distress. Cluster 3, characterized by high scores on Scale 3 and low scores on Scale 4, was associated with a higher level of psychopathology. Cluster 4, characterized by high scores on Scale 4 and low scores on Scale 3, was associated with a lower level of psychopathology. These findings suggest that chronic pain patients may be divided into four distinct clusters based on their MMPI-2 profile, and that these clusters may be associated with different levels of psychological distress and psychopathology.

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