INTRODUCTION

- There is a widespread international support for broader adoption and implementation of evidence-based parenting interventions in an effort to reduce unacceptably high rates of child maltreatment and behavioural and emotional problems in children (e.g., Biglan, Flay, Embry, & Sandler, 2012; Sanders, 2012).
- This study provides initial validation of newly developed measures of Child Adjustment And Parental Efficacy (CAPES) and Family And Parent Functioning (PAFAS) that would overcome some of these limitations enabling population level assessment of child adjustment and family functioning, and facilitating outcome evaluation and meta-analysis of population-level interventions.

SAMPLE N = 347

- Mean age = 39.49 years (range from 24 to 58 years)
- 85% mothers
- 72.1% Australian/ Caucasian
- 66% married
- 47.8% university educated
- 68.9 working FT
- Child mean age = 7.34 years (range from 2 to 12 years)
- 51.9% girls

Scales Development Steps

- Determination of domain of assessment
- Definition of constructs
- Review of existing measures
- Generation of initial item pool
- Input and feedback from key experts
- Initial piloting to assess psychometric properties

RESULT

CAPES

- Confirmatory factor analysis supported 27-item, 2-factor structure of CAPES Intensity and 20-item, 1-factor structure of CAPES Confidence
- Very good Convergent Validity: loadings > 0.40; AVE > .50; CR > .70
- Very good Discriminant Validity: moderate correlations between factors, $\chi^2$ difference test not significant, SIC < AVE
- Good Internal Reliability: .90 (Total score), .90 (Behaviour), .74 (Emotional maladjustment), .96 (Confidence)

PAFAS

- Confirmatory factor analysis supported 33-item, 4-factor structure of PAFAS
- Good Convergent Validity for Parental teamwork, Emotional adjustment and Family relationships. Moderate ConvergentValidity of Parenting practices - research using this scale is warranted
- Satisfactory Discriminant Validity: moderate correlations between factors, $\chi^2$ difference test not significant, SIC < AVE
- Good Internal Reliability: .85 (Parental adjustment); .78 (Family relationships); .77 (Parental teamwork); .88 (Parenting practices)

CONCLUSION

- Both CAPES & PAFAS proved to be psychometrically sound measures.
- CAPES & PAFAS have advantage of being brief measures that assess a range of key variables that are know risk and protective factors of child and family outcomes and that are hypothesized to improve during family interventions.
- Next steps of CAPES and PAFAS validation should include: clinical validation, establishment of norms and cross-cultural adaptation.

FURTHER INFORMATION

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