DIMENSIONS OF PERSONALITY AND PERSONALITY PATHOLOGY
VALIDATION OF THE GERMAN DAPP-BQ

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Abstract

The Dimensional Assessment of Personality Pathology - Basic Questionnaire (DAPP-BQ) is a 256-item questionnaire to assess 18 traits providing a comprehensive and empirically-based view of the total domain of personality disorders. The presentation reports on the development and psychometric properties of the German version of the DAPP-BQ. Analysis of data obtained from both non-clinical (N=8313) and clinical samples (N=410) support the reliability and validity of the German version and the high equivalence of the German and the original Canadian forms. Particularly, DAPP-BQ scores were internally consistent in self- and observer-rated samples, related to other measures, and high on the cross-cultural stability of the postulated factor structure as well as high convergent and discriminant validity when correlated with scores from various alternative instruments. Furthermore, the DAPP-BQ is a valid and reliable measure of unipolar affective symptoms and of personality disorder traits.

Method

The DAPP-BQ was administered in several studies along with various additional personality measures, for example:

- the revised NEO Personality Inventory (NEO-PI-R; Costa & McCrae, 1990);
- the Structured Interview for the Five-Factor Model (SiFFM; Trull & Widiger, 1997);
- the SCID Axis II Personality Questionnaire (SCID-II-PQ; First, Gibbon, Spitzer, Williams & Benjamin, 1997);
- the Coolidge Axis II Inventory (CATI; Coolidge, 1993);
- the Assessment of DSM-V Personality Disorders Questionnaire (ADP-V; Schotte & De Doncker, 1996).

Table 1: Overview of the subsamples included in the four total data sets of N = 8829 DAPP-BQ protocols analyzed in the present study. The largest single study was an internet study carried out by Willibald Ruch at Zurich University, Switzerland (www.charakterstaerken.org/) who kindly provided us with an online data set of 1,007 participants.

Table 2: The results in Table 2 strongly support the assumption that the four major dimensions of personality disorder largely correspond to four of the five broad domains of personality covered by the FFM.

Table 3: The results in Table 3 strongly support the assumption that the four major dimensions of personality disorder largely correspond to four of the five broad domains of personality covered by the FFM.

Table 4: The results in Table 4 strongly support the assumption that the four major dimensions of personality disorder largely correspond to four of the five broad domains of personality covered by the FFM.

Table 5: The results in Table 5 strongly support the assumption that the four major dimensions of personality disorder largely correspond to four of the five broad domains of personality covered by the FFM.

Table 6: The results in Table 6 strongly support the assumption that the four major dimensions of personality disorder largely correspond to four of the five broad domains of personality covered by the FFM.

Results

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Conclusions

The Dimensional Assessment of Personality Pathology - Basic Questionnaire (DAPP-BQ) is a 256-item questionnaire to assess 18 traits providing a comprehensive and empirically-based view of the total domain of personality disorders. The presentation reports on the development and psychometric properties of the German version of the DAPP-BQ. Analysis of data obtained from both non-clinical (N=8313) and clinical samples (N=410) support the reliability and validity of the German version and the high equivalence of the German and the original Canadian forms. Particularly, DAPP-BQ scores were internally consistent in self- and observer-rated samples, related to other measures, and high on the cross-cultural stability of the postulated factor structure as well as high convergent and discriminant validity when correlated with scores from various alternative instruments. Furthermore, the DAPP-BQ is a valid and reliable measure of unipolar affective symptoms and of personality disorder traits.