

Abstract

This master's thesis is a validation study that aims to verify the ability of Goldberg index to discriminate between psychiatric patients with either psychotic or nonpsychotic mental health disorders. There were 374 patients included in this study after selecting valid MMPI-2 profiles based on validity criteria specific for the clinical population. Goldberg index's ability to discriminate patients was analyzed using the ROC curve and independent samples t-test. Results show very weak ability to discriminate between patients close to the classification by chance (AUC = 0.668). Means of the psychotic and nonpsychotic group are significantly different but only with moderate effect size (Cohen's $d = .576$, $p < .001$). The optimal cut-off as a combination of highest sensitivity and specificity for Goldberg index was 48. Screening and diagnostic cut-offs were also explored. Since Goldberg index shows very weak ability to discriminate between psychotic and nonpsychotic patients generating too many false positives and false negatives, it is not possible to support the use of this parameter in clinical and diagnostic practice. Presented study is the first one to validate Goldberg index on any population, Czech or otherwise.

Key words: mmpi-2; goldberg index; psychotic disorders;