Abstract

The aim of this study was to conduct a cross-cultural validation of the Group Environment Questionnaire (GEQ) (Carron, Widmeyer, & Brawley, 1985), internationally recognized as useful and contemporary measurement approach to cohesion. The GEQ was originally validated for a sample of North American athletes. In total, the sample consisted of 1410 adult athletes and trainers (1019 male and 391 female). A modified direct translation method with protocol analysis was utilised to translate the GEQ from English into Czech. Content validity was analysed and confirmed by content validity ratio method for individual indicators of the questionnaire. The factor structure of the Czech version of the questionnaire, verified by structural equation modelling, did not differ from the original version. The predictive validity of the questionnaire was confirmed by its ability to differentiate between groups of athletes (with diverse levels of perceived successfulness) on the basis of their team cohesion scores. Reliability, measured by the Cronbach’s coefficient \( \alpha \), was 0.59–0.69 (for version with positively/negatively worded items) and 0.63–0.79 (for version with positively worded items). The results are discussed in the context of possible cultural differences. For population of the Czech athletes from team and individual sports the Czech version of the questionnaire can be considered reliable, valid and sufficiently conceptually and semantically reconcilable to the original version of the Group Environment Questionnaire.

Keywords:
GEQ, esprit de corps, task cohesion, social cohesion, cross-cultural conversion