

Examination of Psychometric Properties of Children Social-Emotional Screening Test: A Study between Taiwanese and Malaysian Chinese Children

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The current study examined psychometric properties of the 60-month interval of the Ages & Stages Questionnaires: Social-Emotional - Second Edition of Traditional Chinese version (ASQ:SE-2-TC) between Taiwanese and Malaysian Chinese children, and further examined the differentiated item functioning (DIF) between these groups.

The results show that Taiwanese and Malaysian Chinese children have good psychometric traits with the ASQ:SE-2-TC 60-month interval subscale. These two groups have similar scoring trends in the ASQ:SE-2-TC, but the Taiwanese sample had a wider range of score. The two Chinese groups have good reliability in using this assessment tool and have good compatibility with the Rasch model. The test difficulty shows that this assessment has the characteristics of identifying children with general developmental and social-emotional delayed.

According to the DIF rating standard of ETS (Zwick, Thayer, & Lewis, 1999), the two groups only have 2 questions (5.5%) with the DIF level of moderate to severe (C level) in the full scale 36 questions, indicating these two groups only responded slightly and unfairly in these two questions. Both Taiwanese and Malaysian respondents have a positive attitude towards this assessment, and Malaysian respondents have no difficulty in converting Simplified and Traditional Chinese.

Based on the results, the psychometric properties and DIF is discussed , and also provided the practical references and recommendations for development social-emotional screening tools or adapting screening tools in international.

Keywords: Social-emotional screening, Taiwanese Chinese, Malaysian Chinese