

PSYCHOMETRIC PROPERTIES OF THE ROSENBERG SELF-ESTEEM SCALE IN PATIENTS DIAGNOSED WITH BREAST CANCER

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Abstract

Background. Breast cancer patients need to maintain self-esteem during the disease process, as it is crucial for their mental health. It is therefore vital to have an adequate tool for measuring self-esteem in these women. Although the Rosenberg Self-Esteem Scale (SES) has been widely used in both research and clinical settings, its psychometric properties have not, to our knowledge, been studied in this specific population. The present study aimed to address this gap. **Method.** Participants were 170 women residing in Spain (mean age 51.22 years, SD = 8.85) who completed the SES and scales assessing other psychological variables, namely emotional distress, wellbeing and optimism. **Validity evidence** based on the internal structure of the scale was obtained through confirmatory factor analysis (CFA). The reliability of SES scores was assessed by calculating Cronbach's alpha and McDonald's omega coefficients. **Validity evidence** based on relationships with other variables was obtained by examining associations between SES scores and those on the measures of emotional distress, wellbeing and optimism. **Results.** The CFA indicated a one-factor structure, with acceptable fit indices. Reliability coefficient for SES scores was above .80. Correlations with other variables indicated a significant negative relationship with scores on emotional distress, and significant positive correlations with scores on the measures of wellbeing and optimism. **Conclusion.** The SES is a valuable tool for measuring self-esteem in the context of breast cancer, providing useful information for psychological assessment.

Keywords

Cancer; Self-esteem; Rosenberg; validity; reliability

Poster

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