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Measurement

RELIABILITY AND VALIDITY OF THE RECOVERY ASSESSMENT SCALE
FOR CONSUMERS WITH SEVERE MENTAL ILLNESS
LIVING IN GROUP HOME SETTINGS

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The study was designed to investigate the psychometric properties of the Recovery Assessment Scale (RAS), to provide evidence of validity for the recovery construct in the population of individuals living in residential group home facilities, and to assess the reliability of recovery scores provided by individuals with severe mental illness.

Two hundred group home facilities in seven northeast Ohio counties were contacted, using the database of Accredited Care Facilities from the Ohio Department of Health. Thirty-four percent of these homes participated in the study resulting in a sample size was 355 individuals. The residents were surveyed on their recovery efforts, their readiness to make changes, and their ability to perform daily activities. Financial incentives were funded by the Ohio Department of Mental Health and given to the subjects and their caretakers for participation in the study.

For this sample, the findings of the study revealed that the internal consistency of the total RAS scores was acceptable ($\alpha = .9009$) as were the RAS subscales of Hope ($\alpha = .7973$), Ask for Help ($\alpha = .7152$), and Goal Directed ($\alpha = .7887$). The construct validity of recovery, using a five-factor model, was supported using confirmatory factor analysis. Correlation coefficients demonstrated positive significant relationships between recovery and readiness to change ($r = .560, p < .01$) and between recovery and performance in daily activities ($r = .149, p < .01$). The responses from the participants and independent raters were significantly correlated on performance of everyday activities when occupational therapists ($r = .483, p = .002$) or case managers ($r = .239, p = .032$) were used as the informants. When the raters knew the participants for more than one year, significant correlations were obtained ($r_{13-18 \text{ Months}} = .464, p = .035$ and $r_{19-24 \text{ Months}} = .368, p = .000$). Finally, the ratings from the group home managers correlated with the residents' responses for those activities related to basic chores and the ratings from the occupational therapists and case managers correlated with the residents' responses for those activities related to skills needed outside the group home.