

CULTURAL ADAPTATION AND VALIDATION OF THE SPANISH VERSION OF THE FEMALE SEXUAL FUNCTION INDEX (FSFI) IN WOMEN WITH PELVIC FLOOR DISORDERS

Hypothesis / aims of study

To develop a linguistically adapted and psychometrically validated Spanish version of the Index of Female Sexual Function (FSFI) to assess the sexual health in Spanish women with pelvic floor disorders.

Study design, materials and methods

Cross-cultural linguistic adaptation was performed following the translation–backtranslation method in 30 native Spanish-speaking women with pelvic floor disorders to obtain FSFI Spanish version. The psychometric properties were evaluated in 326 women recruited from a Physiotherapy in Women's Health Unit. Once the women permissions were obtained, they were interviewed to determine whether or not they met Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fifth edition (DSM-V) criteria for any female sexual dysfunction (FSD), to assign them to the case (women with FSD) or control group (women without FSD). It was calculated the reliability with the intraclass correlation coefficient and Cronbach's alpha coefficient. Also, it was evaluated the content and construct validity (convergent, divergent and discriminant). The content validity was guaranteed by the validation of the original scale and by the Expert Committee opinion of this study. The convergent construct validity was measured assessed the correlation between the score of an item and its own domain score, using for it the Pearson's correlations. The divergent construct validity was evaluated with the correlations between the FSFI and the Pelvic Floor Distress Inventory short form (PFDI-20) questionnaire in women with the bulging sign in the vagina, using the Pearson correlation. The discriminant construct validity was calculated with an independent Student's t-test comparing the difference of the total score and score of domains between case and control group.

Results

A total of 326 women with 42 (11) (years, X(DS)) were recruited: 169 with FSD (case group) and 157 without FSD (control group). Spanish version of the FSFI achieved good semantic, conceptual, idiomatic and content equivalence. Concerning the psychometric validation, internal consistency was high with Cronbach's alpha coefficient of 0.85 ($p < 0.001$) and test–retest reliability (2 to 4 weeks) evaluated in 25 participants of 0.96 ($p < 0.001$). The convergent construct validity showed that all items were highly correlated with their own domain, and the highest values of correlations between domains were with the excitation domain (Pearson's r 0.381 to 0.685). The divergent construct validity showed good values with the prolapse and colo-rectal dimensions of PFDI-20 (-0.385 and -0.361 respectively). The discriminant construct validity showed statistically significant differences ($p < 0.001$) between the mean scores (total and each domain) from the case (25.78(5.4)) and control group (30.91(3.9)).

Interpretation of results

The aim of the present study was validated the FSFI Spanish version evaluating the reliability and validity of the women with pelvic floor disorders.

The test-retest reliability showed high values, both in the total score like in the domain scores. Good internal consistency was observed for the six domain scores and the total score, both in the case and in control group. The convergent validity showed that each item was highly correlated with its dimensions, and each dimension with the total score. The dimensions that showed highest correlations were the satisfaction with the orgasm and with the arousal and the arousal with the desire and with the orgasm. The degree of association between the FSFI and the PFDI-20 in women with prolapse symptom of bulge in the vagina showed the highest values in the prolapse dimension. The discriminant validity revealed that women with FSD reported significantly lower FSFI scores in comparison with control group.

Concluding message

The Index of Female Sexual Function Spanish version showed semantic, conceptual, idiomatic and content equivalence with the original version. It shows reliable, valid and feasible to evaluate the sexual health in Spanish women with pelvic floor disorders.

Disclosures

Funding: any **Clinical Trial:** No **Subjects:** HUMAN **Ethics Committee:** Hospital Clinical Research Ethics Committee in Alcalá de Henares (Madrid- Spain) **Helsinki:** Yes **Informed Consent:** Yes