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Validation of the Tinnitus Acceptance Questionnaire: Japanese Version

Abstract

The purpose of this study was to develop and validate a Japanese version of the Tinnitus Acceptance Questionnaire (TAQ). This instrument measures the process of intentional acceptance of adverse experiences associated with tinnitus. 125 chronic tinnitus patients from multiple institutions participated in this study. Participants filled the Japanese versions of the TAQ, Tinnitus Handicap Inventory, Valuing Questionnaire, Acceptance and Action Questionnaire-II, and Hospital Anxiety and Depression Scale. A second TAQ was administered 7–14 days later. Because the model fitted poorly in confirmatory factor analysis, exploratory factor analysis was conducted. The exploratory factor analysis indicated a two-factor structure that was divided into forward and reversed item groups. Hypotheses regarding criterion and construct validity were distinctly supported. A high Cronbach's α coefficient value was obtained for the TAQ total score. The interclass correlation coefficient for test-retest reliability was within the acceptable range (0.95). The results of the exploratory factor analysis were considered to be due to method effects, and reaction bias caused by the characteristics of the Japanese language. The present study confirmed the reliability and validity of the Japanese version of the TAQ.