Abstract

Introduction: In Chile there are scarce validated instruments in order to perform categorical psychiatric diagnosis both in children and adolescents. DISC-IV Spanish version validation indexes are presented. Method: A convenience sample was collected from outpatient psychiatric services as well as from private medical facilities and drug-dependence outpatient centres from Concepción, Chile. Subjects of both genders between 7 and 18 years of age, with a psychiatric diagnosis were included in the study (affective disorder, anxiety, drugs abuse and dependence, and behaviour disorder). In addition 18 subjects without psychiatric disorder were selected from a secondary school. Each selected subject that agreed to participate in the study was interviewed by a clinical experienced child psychiatrist, diagnose-blinded, using DSM-IV check list, in order to decide if the subject fulfilled DSM-IV criteria. Later, to patients 12 years old or older, or to their caregiver for children younger than 12 years DISC-IV was applied by some of the previously trained lay interviewers. Quality controls of the interviews were carried out. Data were entered to SPSS file to obtain DISC-IV validation indexes. Results: 144 subjects were incorporated in the study. Cohen’s Kappa indexes, a statistical measure of inter-rater agreement, varied between 0.53 for anxiety disorders, and 0.88 for substance abuse and dependence. Every group presented high specificity ranging between 0.55 and 0.83...

Keywords
Diagnostic interview, adolescent, DISC-IV, psychiatric disorder.