Acceptance and Action Questionnaire (Revised)

© Coping

Assessment

5 min

Client

<u></u> Yes

The Acceptance and Action Questionnaire-Revised (AAQ-II; Bond et al., 2011) is based on the Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT) model of mental health and behavioral effectiveness. ACT uses acceptance, mindfulness, commitment, and behavior change strategies to increase psychological flexibility (Hayes, Strosahl, & Wilson, 2012). Psychological flexibility is defined as "the ability to fully contact the present moment and the thoughts and feelings it contains without needless defense, and, depending on what the situation affords, persisting in or changing behavior in the pursuit of goals and values" (Bond et al., 2011, p. 678).

Goal

The goal of the AAQ-II is to measure psychological flexibility, experiential avoidance, acceptance, and action.

Advice

Although the AAQ-II was designed to be used with ACT therapy, it can be used in different therapies/interventions as well. This questionnaire is particularly useful for interventions that rely on mindfulness and acceptance techniques (e.g., mindfulnessbased cognitive therapy or dialectical behavior therapy).

Scoring

To compute the score, add up all the individual item scores. Note that scores for items 1 and 6 need to be reversed before adding them up. Reversing a score is done by exchanging the original value of an item by its opposite value: a score of 1 s transformed into a score of 7, a score of 2 into a score of 6, etc. The average score can be calculated by dividing the total score by the number of items, in this case, 10. A high overall AAQ-score indicates a low level of psychological flexibility and a high level of experiential avoidance.



References

- Bond, F. W., Hayes, S. C., Baer, R. A., Carpenter, K. M., Guenole, N., Orcutt, H. K.,... Zettle, R. D. (2011). Preliminary psychometric properties of the Acceptance and Action Questionnaire-II: A revised measure of psychological inflexibility and experiential avoidance. Behavior Therapy, 42, 676-688.
- Hayes, S. C., Strosahl, K. D., & Wilson, K. G. (2012). Acceptance and commitment therapy: The process and practice of mindful change (2nd ed.). Guilford Press.

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Instructions

Below you will find a list of statements. Please rate how true each statement is for you by circling a number next to it. Use the scale below to make your choice.

		Never true	Very seldom true	Seldom true	Sometimes true	Frequently true	Almost always true	Always true
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	It's okay if I remember something unpleasant.							
2.	My painful experiences and memories make it difficult for me to live a life that I would value.							
3.	I'm afraid of my feelings.							
4.	I worry about not being able to control my worries and feelings.							
5.	My painful memories prevent me from having a fulfilling life.							
6.	I am in control of my life.							
7.	Emotions cause problems in my life.							
8.	It seems like most people are handling their lives better than I am.							
9.	Worries get in the way of my success.							
10.	My thoughts and feelings get in the way of how I want to live my life.							

Total Score:	
Average Score (Total Score /10):	