

Translation of Children's Yale-Brown Obsessive Compulsive Scale to Arabic

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ABSTRACT

Obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD) is a disabling psychiatric disorder in children and adolescents, marked by intrusive, recurrent thoughts and compulsive behaviors. Early detection is crucial for effective management; however, the absence of validated Arabic screening tools hampers clinical practice in Arabic-speaking regions. To translate and culturally adapt the Children's Yale-Brown Obsessive Compulsive Scale (CY-BOCS) into Arabic and evaluate its linguistic accuracy and cultural appropriateness. Following WHO and international translation guidelines, the authors obtained permission from the original developers and conducted forward translation, back translation, expert review, and two-stage pilot testing involving parents of OCD-diagnosed and community children. The final Arabic version maintained conceptual and linguistic equivalence with the original scale. Feedback confirmed item clarity and comprehension across educational levels. Minor modifications were introduced to enhance cultural appropriateness and linguistic clarity. The Arabic CY-BOCS provides clinicians and researchers with a culturally validated instrument for assessing OCD symptom severity among Arabic-speaking children. Psychometric validation is recommended for clinical use.

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