

TRANSLATION AND ADAPTATION OF THE THEORY OF MIND INVENTORY TO SPANISH

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Introduction

The *Theory of Mind Inventory* (ToMI) represents a new method for assessing theory of mind that addresses the limitations of traditional theory of mind measures. This parent-informant measure is designed to assess a wide range of theory of mind competencies, it does not suffer from ceiling effect when administered to individuals with autism spectrum disorder, and it is not vulnerable to test-practice effects and child linguistic, cognitive, and motivational factors. The ToMI consists of 42 items designed to tap a wide range of social cognitive understandings. Each item takes the form of a statement and is accompanied by a 20-unit continuum anchored by ‘definitely not’, ‘probably not’, ‘undecided’, ‘probably’, and ‘definitely.’ The respondent is asked to read a statement and draw a hash mark at the appropriate point along the continuum.

Objective

The objectives of the present study are **1)** to perform the linguistic and cultural adaptation of the ToMI to Spanish, and **2)** to compare the scores of the ToMI between the Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) and Typically Developing Children (TDC) populations.

Methods

1) translation from English to Spanish by two independent certified translators; **2)** production of an agreed version by a multidisciplinary committee of experts; **3)** back-translation to English of the agreed version by an independent translator; **4)** discussion of the semantic, idiomatic, and cultural equivalence of the final version; **5)** elaboration of the final test; **6)** pilot test on 24 representatives of the ASD population and 24 controls of TDC matched in age and sex.

Results

All the steps of the translation process were conducted satisfactorily, producing the final version of the ToMI in Spanish. The inventory was rated as easy to fill in and understandable by the caregivers of the TDC and ASD patients who completed it. The results of the ToMI for both populations (ASD, TDC) are showed in **table 1**. The group differences in the composite score of the ToMI were significant ($p= 0.006$).

Table 1

Group	Sex	Age	ToMI Composite Score
Autism Spectrum Disorder	20 Males	4-14 years	M=13,29; SD=3,54
	4 Females		
Typically Developing Children	20 Males	4-14 years	M=16,4; SD=2,22
	4 Females		

M: Mean, SD: standard deviation

Conclusion

The Spanish version of the ToMI seems a valid and reliable instrument that can be used in assistential clinical practice or in research as an alternative to the traditional ToM tasks.

Bibliography

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