

Psychopathic State Inventory (PSI) - Tentative Norms

Volume: 09 Issue: 02 July 1991 Page: 113-114

Teresa Neeliyara, S V Nagalakshmi, - *Department of Clinical Psychology, National Institute of Mental Health & Neuro Sciences, Bangalore 560 029, India*

Rajat Ray &, - *Department of Psychiatry, National Institute of Mental Health & Neuro Sciences, Bangalore 560 029, India*

D K Subbakrishna, - *Department of Biostatistics National Institute of Mental Health & Neuro Sciences, Bangalore 560 029, India*

Abstract

Psychopathic State Inventory (PSI) was administered to 100 normal male subjects with mean age and education being 29.33±7.65 and 16.4±2.19 respectively. The tentative norms for the scale was obtained in the form of means for the total score and sub-scale score. Positive correlation was obtained between each of the sub-scale and the total psychopathic score, indicating that the scores on any one of the subscale can be taken as representative of total Psychopathic State Score.

Key words -

Psychopathic State Inventory, Norms

Among the various personality traits studied anti-social personality has been looked into more often by researchers in the field of mental health [1], [2], [3]. Minnesota Multi-Phase Inventory (MMPI) is one such tool which was used to assess the psychopathic deviation in various clinical conditions.

Similarly the psychopathic state inventory (PSI) is another assessment tool to detect the presence of 'psychopathic state' in different clinical conditions. The PSI used in the present study was developed by Haertzen et al [4] and was found to be reliable. The validity was established by obtaining significant correlation with MMPI and Addicts Research Centre Inventory. The PSI has the sub-scales like

- (1) High-Hi
- (2) Impulsivity-Imp.
- (3) Egocentric-Ego
- (4) Need
- (5) Hypophoric
- (6) Sociopathic and sum of psychopathy i.e. scores on all the scales from one to six.

The purpose of the present effort is to make the PSI suitable for our culture. Hence the inventory was individually administered to 100 normal male subjects in our set-up. The mean age of the subjects was 29.33 and SD 7.65. Mean education was 16.4 and SD 2.19. The scale was scored using the standard key.

Results

The mean for the total scores and sub-scale scores presented in Table I serve as tentative norms for the group.

Table I - Means and SD for PSI total and subscale scores and correlation between the total score and subscale score

Table I - Means and SD for PSI total and subscale scores and correlation between the total score and subscale score

N=100 normal subjects

To examine the inter-relationship between each of the subscale with the total score of PSI, correlations were computed. The findings in Table I suggest high positive correlation between each of the subscales and the total psychopathic scores. The correlation coefficient is above 0.6 on all the items. The above correlation indicates that the scores on any one of the subscale can be taken as representative of total Psychopathic State Scores.

The findings of the present study cannot be generalised as it is based on a small sample. It is to be repeated on a larger sample. In order to find out the utility of these norms the PSI scores of 30 alcohol dependent subjects were compared with 30 normal subjects (drawn from his normative sample). Results indicated significantly high Psychopathic State in alcohol dependent individuals as compared to normals [5]. Thus it proves its clinical utility.

Acknowledgement

We thank Haertzen C A, Martin W R, Ross F E & Neidert G L, the authors of the Psychopathic State Inventory (PSI) for sending the tool.

1.Schuckit M A, Alcoholism and sociopathy - diagnostic confusion

Journal of Studies in Alcohol Page: 34: 157, 1973

2.Lewis C E, Rice J & Helzer J E, Diagnostic interaction, alcoholism and anti-social personality

Journal of Nervous & Mental Diseases Page: 171 (2): 102, 1983

3.Meyer R E & Babor T F, Explanatory models of alcoholism

In: Review of Psychiatry, (Eds) Tasman A, Hales R E & Frances A J. American Psychiatric Press, Inc. Washington D C1989

4.Haertzen C A, Martin W R, Ross F E & Neidert G L, Psychopathic State Inventory (PSI).

Development of a short test for measuring psychopathic states

The International Journal of Addictions Page: 15 (1): 137, 1980

5.Neeliyara T, Nagalakshmi S V & Ray R, Self-esteem and psychopathic characteristics of individuals with alcohol dependence

Journal of Personality & Clinical Studies Page: 4 (1): 7, 1988
