

# Spanish validation of the parent report version of the Mood and Feelings Questionnaire

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## BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

The Parent Report version of the Mood and Feelings Questionnaire MFQ-P (Angold et al., 1995) is a 34-item unidimensional instrument designed to detect depressive symptoms in youth from six years old by their parent's report. Despite this tool has been broadly used for clinical and epidemiological purposes, this measure is not available for Spanish-speaking population.

The aim of this study was to examine the psychometric properties (i.e., factorial structure and internal consistency) of the MFQ-P in a community sample of Spanish-speaking children

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

- The sample included 181 parents of children aged 6-8 (boys = 98, 54.1%, 45.9%) aged 6 to 8 with a mean age of 6.87 years ( $SD = 0.79$ ) and their parents (81.8% mothers)
- Parents were asked to completed the MFQ-P to inform how their child felt or acted in the past two weeks from their point of view.
- In order to assess the test-retest reliability, parents completed the MFQ-P eight weeks later
- Confirmatory factor analysis (CFA) was conducted in R Studio environment

## RESULTS

- Confirmatory factor analysis supported the original one-factor model of the MFQ-P. The Spanish data showed a good fit to the model after removing item number one ("S/he felt miserable or unhappy"):  $\chi^2 = 620.35$ ,  $df = 495$ ,  $\chi^2/df = 1.25$ ,  $CFI = .99$ ,  $TLI = .98$ , and  $RMSEA = .03$ ; 95% CI [.027, .047]
- Table 1 provides the factor loadings, all statistically significant, with standardized values exceeding .30
- The Spanish version of MFQ-P demonstrated an adequate reliability with a Cronbach's alpha of .92 and acceptable test-retest reliability (intraclass correlation coefficient = .76)

TABLE 1. FACTOR LOADINGS

2. S/he didn't enjoy anything at all.	.36
3. S/he was less hungry than usual.	.52
4. S/he ate more than usual.	.90
5. S/he felt so tired s/he just sat around and did nothing.	.44
6. S/he was moving and walking more slowly than usual.	.37
7. S/he was very restless.	.72
8. S/he felt s/he was no good anymore.	.31
9. S/he blamed him/herself for things that weren't his/her fault.	.63
10. It was hard for him/her to make up his/her mind.	.58
11. S/he felt grumpy and cross with his/her parents.	.34
12. S/he felt like talking less than usual.	.50
13. S/he was talking more slowly than usual.	.62
14. S/he cried a lot.	.60
15. S/he thought there was nothing good for him/her in the future.	.50
16. S/he thought that life wasn't worth living.	.35
17. S/he thought about death or dying.	.58
18. S/he thought his/her family would be better off without him/her.	.50
19. S/he thought about killing him/herself.	.60
20. S/he didn't want to see his/her friends.	.42
21. S/he found it hard to think properly or concentrate.	.60
22. S/he thought bad things would happen to him/her.	.56
23. S/he hated him/herself.	.36
24. S/he felt s/he was a bad person.	.42
25. S/he thought s/he looked ugly.	.50
26. S/he worried about aches and pains.	.68
27. S/he felt lonely.	.43
28. S/he thought nobody really loved him/her.	.58
29. S/he didn't have any fun at school.	.34
30. S/he thought s/he could never be as good as other kids.	.32
31. S/he felt s/he did everything wrong.	.33
32. S/he didn't sleep as well as s/he usually sleeps.	.60
33. S/he slept a lot more than usual.	.86
34. S/he wasn't as happy as usual, even when s/he was praised or rewarded.	.31

## CONCLUSIONS

This study demonstrated for the first time adequate psychometric properties of the parent version of MFQ-P in the Spanish population, suggesting that its use may be promising for the detection of childhood depressive symptoms in Spanish-speaking children from the early school years

