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TAI-TA ATTENTION TEST: ITS PSYCHOMETRIC PROPERTIES AND ITS COMPUTERIZATION

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of the present study was to investigate the psychometric properties of the Tai-Ta Attention Test and to establish some norm reference data of the psychiatric patients with different diagnostic types regarding to the following components of the attentional response: total response time, number of omit response, number of error response, and number of correct response per second. Via five different samples, clinical or nonclinical, Study 1 showed that Tai-Ta Attention Test had high test-retest reliability and appeared to be a promising instrument in assessing attentional function. Study 2 consisted of 730 patients. By subgrouping the subjects according to different criteria, the results revealed that, even after IQ, sex, education and age variables had been partialled out, several of the attentional indexes still showed significant difference between different subgroups. The implications of the findings are discussed and a model of an automated attention test concerning the intention to combine systematically the fields of computer, cognitive psychology and psychometry and its implications for the future research possibilities are postulated.