

Psychometric Properties of a Multidimensional Perceived Social Support Scale for Adolescents Exposed to Typhoon Morakot

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Social support greatly contributes to physical and mental health, especially for people affected by natural disasters. It is necessary to develop a psychometrically sound measurement of social support to assess the relationships between social support and health. The purpose of this study is to examine whether the self-reported multidimensional social support scale has good psychometric characteristics for adolescents affected by super typhoon Morakot. The findings of this study show that firstly, this social support scale has good construct validity and concurrent validity since the data can be explained by the four factors of the second-order and three factors of the first-order models. The three factors of the first-order model can be termed emotional, instrumental and information support constructs, respectively, and the four factors of the second-order represent the whole social support construct from the four sources of social support. Secondly, social support was negatively associated with anxiety and depression regardless of the type of social support. Finally, this scale and each sub-scale all had good reliability, and the items were highly correlated with this scale or each sub-scale.

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