REVISED DYADIC ADJUSTMENT SCALE (RDAS)

Reference:


Description of Measure:

A 14-item scale designed to measure relationship satisfaction. The RDAS is a revised version of the original Dyadic Adjustment Scale (Spanier, 1976 –see this website for information on the original). The revised version offers improved psychometric properties, is shorter, and includes only 3 of the original 4 subscales:

1. Dyadic Consensus – degree to which respondent agrees with partner
2. Dyadic Satisfaction -- degree to which respondent feels satisfied with partner
3. Dyadic Cohesion –degree to which respondent and partner participate in activities together

The items have varying response scales (see scale below).

Abstracts of Selected Related Articles:


This study reports on the development of the Dyadic Adjustment Scale, a new measure for assessing the quality of marriage and other similar dyads. This factor analytic study suggests four empirically verified components of dyadic adjustment to
be used as subscales (dyadic satisfaction, dyadic cohesion, dyadic consensus and affectional expression).


Two studies addressed the implications of concordance versus discrepancy of attachment representations in individuals at 2 stages in their marital relationships. Engaged \((n = 157)\) and dating \((n = 101)\) couples participated in a multimethod 6-year longitudinal study of adult attachment. Individuals completed the Adult Attachment Interview (AAI), the Current Relationship Interview (CRI), and various questionnaires and were observed in interactions with partners. On the basis of AAI and CRI classifications, participants were placed in one of four groups: SecureAAI/SecureCRI, SecureAAI/InsecureCRI, InsecureAAI/SecureCRI, or InsecureAAI/InsecureCRI. Each of the configurations showed a particular pattern of behavior, feelings about relationships and the self, and likelihood of relationship breakup. The findings of the studies address important points about the protective effects of attachment security and have interesting implications for the extension of attachment theory into adulthood.


We conducted a reliability generalization meta-analysis to examine the internal consistency of Dyadic Adjustment Scale (DAS; Spanier, 1976) scores across 91 published studies with 128 samples and 25,035 participants. The DAS was found to produce total and Dyadic cohesion, Consensus, and Satisfaction scores of acceptable internal consistency, although lower than those originally reported by Spanier (1976). Reliability estimates of these scores did not differ by the sexual orientation, gender, marital status, or ethnicity of the sample. The Affective Expression subscale was found to produce scores with poor Cronbach’s alpha across studies. Reliability estimates of Affective Expression scores were highly influenced by sample characteristics. The implications of these results are discussed as they relate to the use of the DAS in research.

Scale: Contact Multi Health Systems 1-800-456-3003 for permission to use items.