

1-16. Validation of the CDI-III in European Portuguese: reliability and validity evidence

Irene Cadime^a, Fernanda Leopoldina Viana^b, Ana Lúcia Santos^c, Carla Silva^a & Iolanda Ribeiro^d

^aResearch Centre on Child Studies, University of Minho, Portugal; ^bInstitute of Education & Research Centre on Child Studies, University of Minho, Portugal; ^cUniversity of Lisbon, Portugal; ^dSchool of Psychology, University of Minho, Portugal;

irenecadime@ie.uminho.pt

The MacArthur-Bates Communicative Development Inventory-III (CDI-III; Fenson et al., 2007) is a measure of lexical, grammatical, semantic and pragmatic skills of children aged between 30 and 36 months old, based on the parental reports of these skills. The CDI versions for children aged less than 30 months old are widely known and have been validated for several languages. However, the version to assess children's communicative development at this developmental stage has not been so profusely adapted for different languages. In this paper, the results of a pilot study using the European Portuguese version of the CDI-III (CDI-III-PT) will be presented. The main aim of this study was to investigate its psychometric properties, namely reliability and validity.

Method

The CDI-III-PT pilot version is composed of a 125-item vocabulary checklist, a 16-item subscale to assess syntactic complexity and a 15-item subscale to assess different uses of language. The items were developed taking into account the original CDI-III English version, but also information collected from the CDI Portuguese version for toddlers aged 16-30 months and a lexicon of European Portuguese spontaneous speech (Santos, Freitas & Cardoso, 2014). The parents' reports of the lexical and grammatical development of 170 children, aged between 30 and 36 months, were collected.

Results

Cronbach's alpha was used to measure reliability and an exploratory factor analysis was performed to assess the dimensionality of each subscale. Gender and age differences were also computed.

Discussion

The findings are discussed in terms of its similarity with the ones obtained with the English version of the CDI-III and with the state of the art regarding lexical and grammatical development, as well as uses of language, in this developmental phase.

References

- Fenson, L., Marchman, V., Thal, D., Dale, P., Reznick, J., & Bates, E. (2007). *MacArthur-Bates Communicative Development Inventories: Users guide and technical manual*, 2nd edition. Baltimore: Paul H Brookes.
- Santos, A. L. , M. J. Freitas & A. Cardoso (2014). *CEPLEXicon - A Lexicon of Child European Portuguese*. Lisbon: Anagrama (CLUL, FLUL). ELRA ID: ELRA-L0094