

Suicidal Ideation and Behavior Assessment Tool (SIBAT): Psychometric Characterization of Patient-Reported Modules

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ABSTRACT

Methodological Question Being Addressed: We examined psychometric characteristics of selected patient-reported outcomes gathered with the Suicidal Ideation and Behavior Assessment Tool (SIBAT). SIBAT modules My Risk/Protective Factors (Module 2) and My Current Thinking (Module 3) were assessed using Exploratory Factor Analysis (EFA). The objective of this analysis was to inform the dimensionality of Modules 2 and 3 of SIBAT based on their underlying psychometric structures.

Introduction (Aims): The SIBAT allows for structured collection of information from patients and clinicians, relevant to assessment of suicidal ideation and behavior (SIB) and is designed to measure rapid SIB changes in clinical trial settings. The SIBAT is comprised of 5 patient-reported modules (1-5) and 3 clinician-rated modules (6-8). My Risk/Protective Factors (Module 2) consists of 21 items with a six-point Likert scale ranging from ‘never’ to ‘all of the time’. My Current Thinking (Module 3) consists of 48 items; each item has a six-point Likert scale ranging from ‘strongly disagree’ to ‘strongly agree’.

Methods: Participants (n=130) with varying degrees of SIB were identified from 4 clinical sites. All consented to SIB evaluation with the SIBAT. These participants completed the 5 patient-

reported SIBAT modules: 1) About Me, 2) My Risk/Protective Factors, 3) My Current Thinking, 4) My Actions, and 5) My Risk. Thereafter, a trained clinician completed 1) a semi-structured interview, 2) the 4-item Clinical Global Impressions module, and 3) a treatment-management module. An EFA was conducted to separately examine the factor structure underlying each item of patient-reported Modules 2 (My Risk/Protective Factors) and 3 (My Current Thinking). The number of factors within each module was determined by examining the scree test, eigen values, simple structure, and clinical interpretability of the resulting factors. Item loading and correlations among the factors were also evaluated.

Results: Suicidal severity of the participants (mean age [SD], 38.3 [17.77] years; range, 12-81 years, women 57.7%) varied- not suicidal (15.4%), questionably suicidal (15.4%), mildly suicidal (20.8%), moderately suicidal (16.9%), markedly suicidal (5.4%), severely suicidal (19.2%) and extremely suicidal (6.9%) [Clinical Global Impression of Severity of Suicidality Revised score, mean (SD)= 2.7 (1.9)]. Among the participants, 71/130 (54.6%) were regarded as clinically depressed. Results of the EFA from this initial study suggest that a 3-factor model and a 4-factor model provided the best fits to Modules 2 and 3, respectively. Moderate inter-factor correlations (>0.40) were observed.

Conclusions: These preliminary analyses from a broad range of suicidal participants provide information on the factor structure of the SIBAT patient-reported modules and may offer insight into the interpretation of patient-reported elements of the SIBAT when it is used in research and clinical settings. Further evaluation of these factors in a larger sample is needed.

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