

Abstract of thesis entitled:

Construct Validity and Prevalence Rate of Borderline Personality Features among Chinese Adolescents in Hong Kong

Submitted by LEUNG, See-Wai

for the degree of Master of Philosophy in Psychology

at The Chinese University of Hong Kong in July 2007

The construct of borderline personality disorder (BPD) among adolescents is a hotly-debated topic. Related studies on Chinese adolescents are particularly rare because the Chinese Classification of Mental Disorders-III (CCMD-III; CPA, 2001) rejects BPD as a valid diagnostic category. The present study examined the construct validity and prevalence of BPD among Chinese adolescents in Hong Kong. Over 5000 adolescents from five high schools were recruited for the study. Subjects completed the self-report McLean screening instrument for borderline personality disorder (MSI-BPD) and other measures assessing BPD traits twice over a two-year period. Results showed that the DSM-IV-TR BPD criteria set as measured by MSI-BPD demonstrated good internal consistency, concurrent validity and test-retest reliability. Confirmatory factor analysis of MSI-BPD revealed four theoretically meaningful factors, namely affect dysregulation, impulsivity, self disturbances and interpersonal disturbances. Prevalence rate of BPD, according to a stringent simulated diagnostic procedure developed for this study, was estimated to be 2% among Chinese adolescents in Hong Kong. Examination of the stability and developmental sequences of BPD features demonstrated that affect dysregulation may represent primary vulnerability trait in the development of BPD. Implications for future investigations of BPD among adolescents and treatment strategies were discussed.

摘 要

學者對青少年邊緣性人格障礙（Borderline personality disorder，BPD）的建構效度存有爭議。而在中國大陸 BPD 並沒有進入 CCMD 診斷系統，因此缺乏相應的研究。本文研究邊緣性人格障礙在香港青少年的建構效度及流行率。超過五千名中學生連續兩年填寫問卷。結果顯示 DSM-IV-TR BPD 的診斷標準存有較好的內部一致性信度、關聯效度及重測信度。驗證性因素分析顯示 BPD 的症狀可被歸納為四個因素：情感失調、衝動性行為失調、紊亂的自我認知及不穩定人際關係。根據本文建立的模擬診斷估計，BPD 在香港青少年的流行率約為 2%。從診斷的穩定性及發病過程推斷，情感失調為 BPD 發展的基本特質。就研究所得，本文提出了有關 BPD 未來研究方向及治療方案的建議。