

## Abstract

Personality was found to be a significant predictor of one's perceived level of stress and the development mental health problems. Previous studies suggested that general self-efficacy might play a significant role in the above relationship by mediating the effect of personality on perceived level of stress. The present study elaborated on these findings from an interpersonal perspective. Interpersonal related personality factor and general collective efficacy were incorporated in the hypothesized model to evaluate how these collectivistic constructs might exert their influences on a group of Hong Kong adolescents. In a sample of 479 junior secondary school students, structural equation modeling showed that though general collective efficacy did not mediate the effect of personality on perceived level of stress, it did mediate the effect of personality on externalizing mental health problems. While universal personality factors such as neuroticism showed significant predictions on various mental health problems, the present study found that interpersonal related personality factor also showed significant associations with various mental health variables, including stress level, internalizing and externalizing mental health problems. These findings provided supplementary information on the conceptualization of mental health problems by suggesting some possible additional contributions from interpersonal related constructs. It also echoed the emerging needs of considering cultural-specific elements in both research and practice.