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Exploratory and Confirmatory Factor Analysis of the Child Uncertainty in Illness Scale Among Children with Chronic Illness

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▶ Abstract

Objective To conduct an exploratory factor analysis (EFA) and a confirmatory factor analysis (CFA) of the Child Uncertainty in Illness Scale (CUIS) with a sample of children and adolescents with a chronic health condition.

Developmental differences in factor structure were also examined. **Methods** A sample of 373 children aged 8–18 years with chronic conditions completed the CUIS as a part of a larger battery of measures. **Results** The EFA yielded a 16-item two-factor model termed Unpredictability/Ambiguity and Comprehension. The CFA yielded a 14-item two-factor model that fits the data very well, where $\chi^2(df = 74) = 95.396$, Comparative Fit Index (CFI) = .973, Tucker Lewis Index

(TLI) = .967, and Root Mean Square error of approximation (RMSEA) = .038. No developmental differences were found in underlying factor structures: $\Delta\chi^2(df=12) = 17.754$, $\Delta CFI = .004$, $\Delta TLI = -.001$, and $\Delta RMSEA = .000$.


Conclusions The two-factor CUIS measure could be a useful tool for assessing illness uncertainty among children with chronic illness.


Key words: Child Uncertainty in Illness Scale; childhood chronic condition; confirmatory factor analysis; exploratory factor analysis; illness uncertainty.

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