

Rorschach, Lengthy Protocols and Interpretive Yield

Date: Wed, 31 May 2006 09:02:58 -0400

Subject: Re: [Rorschach_List] Re: lengthy protocols

The idea that interpretive yield is not different after 5 responses per card is based on an empirical finding by Loosli-Ussleri back in the late 1930s or so -- anyway more than 50 years ago. She wanted to see how many responses it was possible for people to make to a given card. Using Rorschach's original methodology, she obtained protocols with responses in the 100-120 range, i.e., ten or more per card. It was she who first reported that there was a drop-off in interpretive-yield after about 5 responses.

Bill Friedman

Rick Poll wrote: When I first started, I recall taking a couple of similar length.

The Workbook includes information which strikes me as conflicting. On page 10 it says that interpretive yield is not different if only the first 5 responses are used. It doesn't explain why the recommended procedure is to take each card away after 5 -- except if the patient falls below 5 in which case no more cards are taken away. Thereby allowing, in theory, an unlimited number.

Then, it also says, with respect to 70+ response records, "logic and experience argue against the acceptance of extremely long records" and recommends accepting only five responses per card in the "runaway train" scenario.

On balance, it looks like you should never end up with many more than 50.

When the test starts taking close to an hour, I usually feel that I could spend my time with the patient in more profitable ways than collecting and inquiring even more Rorschach responses.

Rick

--- In Rorschach_List@yahoogroups.com, "Melody D. London, Ph.D." <melodylondon@...> wrote:

I am 1.5 hours into what looks like about a 4 hour Rorschach. This is my first of this length. I thought I got a lot of responses from a student in my training days but this beats her. I have 42 responses so far, and we have only finished Card 5.

Just out of curiosity, what is the longest record you all have seen?

Thanks, Melody

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