

MMPI-2 and Pseudo Seizures

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To: Neuropsychology
Subject: [npsych] MMPI-2 and Pseudoseizures

The issue of the 1/3 profile and neurological patients came up on the AACN listserv a few months back. Below was my post with some additional comments.

The information below comes from a lecture slide I put together a number of years ago. I tried to find the best studies I could at the time. In essence, the mean profiles of neurological patients is essentially normal at a group level when looking at a consecutive series, with the only exception being pseudoseizure patients, litigants and somatisizers (the worried well outpatient referral from neurology with a psych hx). The groups below are spinal cord injury, closed head injury, headache, seizure, and pseudoseizure patients. While neurological patients will admit to symptoms that are reflected in scales 1 and 3, there are only a finite number of these symptoms that a legitimate neurological patient can report. The excess is picked up by scales 1 and 3.

Jim Andrikopoulos

MMPI-2

Scales	SCI	CHI	HA	SZ	PSZ	
Hs-1	66	58	67	60	77	SCI = Spinal Cord Injuries
D-2	55	59	59	62	68	Chi = Closed Head Injuries
Hy-3	61	57	64	57	76	HA = Headache
Pd-4	55	59	53	52	57	SZ = Seizures
Mf-5	46	49	47	50	57	PSZ = Pseudoseizure Patients
Pa-6	53	54	54	54	62	
Pt-7	52	57	57	59	61	
Sc-8	58	60	54	61	64	
Ma-9	55	59	50	55	56	
Si-0	45	52	53	55	49	
Number of Subjects	42	44	52	100	24	