

Complex Trauma and Assessment (January 12th, 2024)

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Index/Glossary of possible Standardized Measures:

1. Complex Trauma Standardized Measures Complete Guide (NCTSN):
<https://www.nctsn.org/resources/complex-trauma-standardized-measures>

Handout and Book Resources:

1. National Child Traumatic Stress Network - <https://www.nctsn.org/resources/all-nctsn-resources>
2. Trauma Research Foundation Book List -
<https://traumaresearchfoundation.org/resources/book-corner/>

Complex Trauma Screeners for Children/Adolescents:

1. **Child Trauma Screen** - The CTS is brief (10 items), free to use, based on research and evidence, and available for children age 6-17 (a version for children 3 to 6 is under development). The CTS is NOT a comprehensive screening tool or a clinical assessment, and does not screen for all types of trauma exposure or all traumatic stress reactions. Those using it should be trained in child trauma and screening, including managing disclosures and requirements for mandated reporting of suspected child abuse and neglect.
<https://www.chdi.org/our-work/trauma-informed-initiatives/ct-trauma-screen-cts/>
2. **Traumatic Events Screening Inventory (TESI-C)** - The TESI-C protocol is a guide for clinical and/or research interviewing to screen for a child's history of exposure to potentially traumatic experiences. The interview includes 16 items that survey the domains of potential traumatic experiences. Each item rated YES is followed immediately with probes to determine the child and interviewer's view of the life threat/severe injury/risk of severe injury involved (OBJECTIVE) and three probes eliciting the child's appraisal of the potentially traumatic incident(s) described for that item (APPRAISAL).

Complex Trauma Screeners for Adults:

1. **STRESS Screener** - The Structured Trauma-Related Experiences & Symptoms Screener (STRESS) for adults is a 10- to 15-minute self-report instrument designed to assess (1) lifetime exposure to several domains of potentially traumatic and other adverse experiences and age of occurrence (52 items), (2) PTSD symptoms that map onto symptom criteria defined in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual for Mental Disorders 5th Edition (DSM-5) and applicable to one or more traumatic events (25 items), and functional impairment (6 items).
2. **UCLA PTSD Reaction Index Trauma Exposure Screen** - The UCLA PTSD-RI Adult is a brief version of the UCLA PTSD-RI. It contains 22 items that assess the frequency of trauma-related symptoms. The UCLA PTSD-RI is one of the most widely used instruments for assessing symptoms related to trauma. There is also a version for children/adolescents.

Other standardized instruments used within the National Child Traumatic Stress Network to assess traumatic stress in young children.

1. Child Behavior Checklist (CBCL): Achenbach, and Rescorla (2001). Ages 1½–5
2. Posttraumatic Stress Disorder Semi-Structured Interview and Observation Record: Scheeringa and Zeanah (1994). Ages 0–4
3. Posttraumatic Symptom Inventory for Children (PT-SIC): Eisen (1997). Ages 4–8
4. Preschool Age Psychiatric Assessment (PAPA): Egger and Angold (1999). Ages 2–5
5. PTSD Symptoms in Preschool-Aged Children (PTSD-PAC): Levendosky, Huth-Bocks, Semel, and Shapiro (2002). Ages 3–5
6. Traumatic Events Screening Inventory-Parent Report Revised (TESI-PRR): Ghosh et al. (2002). Ages 0–6
7. Trauma Symptom Checklist for Young Children (TSCYC): Briere et al. (2001). Ages 3–12
8. Violence Exposure Scale for Children-Preschool Version (VEX-PV): Shahinfar, Fox, and Leavitt (2000). Ages 4–10
9. Violence Exposure Scale for Children-Revised Parent Report (VEX-RPR): Shahinfar, Fox, and Leavitt (2000). For parents of preschool-aged children aged 4–10
10. One that we have access to through Pearson Assessments is The Childhood Trauma Questionnaire: A Retrospective Self-Report (CTQ) is a reliable, valid review for a history of child abuse and neglect. Childhood Trauma Questionnaire is a 28-item, self-report tool useful with individuals referred for a broad range of psychiatric symptoms and problems.

References

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