MMPI-2-RF: Forensic Practice Briefing

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Agenda

Overview
Forensic Applications
Admissibility/Addressing Challenges
A case example
MMPI-2-RF Overview

Published 2008
- Authors Ben-Porath & Tellegen

338 items

Subset of MMPI-2 Item Pool

Norms based on MMPI-2 normative sample
MMPI-2-RF Overview

- 51 Scales
  - 9 Validity Scales
  - 3 Higher-Order Scales
  - 9 RC Scales
  - 23 Specific Problems Scales
    - 5 Somatic/Cognitive
    - 9 Internalizing
    - 4 Externalizing
    - 5 Interpersonal
  - 2 Interest Scales
  - 5 PSY-5 Scales

Manuals:
- Manual for Administration, Scoring and Interpretation
- Technical Manual
- User’s Guide for Reports
MMPI-2-RF Overview

Interpreting the MMPI-2-RF
- MMPI Evolution
- MMPI-2-RF Development & Constructs
- Interpretive Guidelines
- Case Studies

Important Differences between MMPI-2 and MMPI-2-RF

Validity Scales
- Elimination of item overlap
- F-r
- Fs
- FBS-r
- RBS
- 50+ peer-reviewed articles

Focus on *Psychological Constructs* rather than *Psychiatric Syndromes*
- Constructs delineated in Ben-Porath (2012) book
- Linked to current models and concepts in personality and psychopathology research
  - e.g., PSY-5
- Can inform diagnostic assessments (Diagnostic Considerations listed for most substantive scales)
Forensic Applications

MMPI-2-RF used in
- Criminal Court
- Competency and Insanity
- Risk Assessments (sentencing)
- Civil Litigation
- Personal Injury
- Disability Claims
- Workers Compensation
- Family Court
- Child Custody
- Parental Fitness
- Correctional Settings
General Considerations

Assessment of response bias
- Greater external incentive
- Context specific
  - Over-reporting vs under-reporting

Assessment of psychopathology symptoms
- Severe mental illness
  - Psychosis (e.g., THD, RC6, RC8, PSYC) or Mania (e.g., RC9, ACT)
- Mood disorder/Emotional lability
  - Internalizing scales
- Personality pathology and behavioral dysfunction
  - E.g., PSY-5 scales / externalizing scales (e.g., BXD, RC4, JCP, SUB, AGG)

Criminal Court Considerations

Competency to stand trial
- Capacity-focused test
- Current functioning

Criminal responsibility
- Different sanity standards
- Retrospective evaluation
- Utility of MMPI-2-RF?

Risk assessment (pre-sentence)
- Assessment of static vs. dynamic risk factors
  - MMPI-2-RF, e.g.,
  - Past EXT history (e.g., JCP, SUB)
- Emotional instability
- Behavioral instability
- Active symptoms of mental illness
- Insight (L-r)
Civil Litigation and Disability Considerations

Assessment of response bias
- Somatic/cognitive over-reporting scales

Current functioning
- Was the plaintiff/claimant actually harmed?
- Depression, e.g.,
  - EID, RCd, RC2, SUI, SHLP, SFD, HFC, NEGE-r, INTR-r, SAV
- Anxiety Disorders, e.g.,
  - EID, RC7, STW, AXY, BRF
- PTSD, e.g.,
  - RCd, RC7, STW, AXY**, SAV/DSF;
- Substance abuse, e.g.,
  - BXD, RC4, SUB, DISC-r
- Chronic pain, e.g.,
  - RC1, GIC, NUC, HPC, COG, MLS (overall debilitation)

Is the person disabled due to current psychiatric diagnosis?
Did event X at time Y cause or contribute to current diagnosis?

Family Court Considerations

Psychological best interests of the child

Under-reporting
- Comparison groups

Current functioning that could interfere with parenting
- Psychopathology
- Maladaptive personality traits

Not a measure of parenting ability or predictor of future parenting per se
Correctional Settings Considerations

Mental health needs and intervention

Security classification and risk assessment

Prediction of self-harm
- SUI (see Glassmire et al., 2016)

Parole considerations
- See “Risk Assessment”

Addressing Challenges to MMPI-2-RF-based testimony
Daubert Factors

Has the technique been tested?

Has it been subjected to peer review?

What is the technique’s known or potential rate of error?

Are there standards controlling the technique’s operation?

Is the technique generally accepted?

Has the technique been tested?

Are empirical data available on the technique?

- MMPI-2-RF Technical Manual
Appendix A
External Correlates Tables

Index to Tables by Setting

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Setting</th>
<th>Table</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Outpatients, Community Mental Health Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>Psychiatric Inpatients, Community Hospital/VA Hospital</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mental Health Outpatients, VA Hospital</td>
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<tr>
<td>Medical Outpatients, VA Hospital</td>
<td>77–80</td>
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<td>Substance Abuse Treatment, VA Hospital</td>
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<td>Disability Claimants</td>
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<td>Criminal Defendants</td>
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<td>College Students</td>
<td>129–136</td>
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Has the MMPI-2-RF been tested?

Empirical Correlates in

- Mental Health
- Outpatient
- Inpatient
- Medical
- Substance Abuse Treatment
- Forensic- Civil
- Forensic- Criminal
- Non-Clinical

N= 4,336 Men; 2,327 Women
605 Criteria
53,970 Correlations

Has the MMPI-2-RF been tested?

Descriptive Data for following settings:

- Mental Health
- Medical
- Pre-Surgical
- Substance Abuse Treatment
- Criminal Forensic
- Civil Forensic
- Correctional
- Personnel Screening
- Non-Clinical Settings

N= 68,377
Has the MMPI-2-RF subjected to peer review?

Over 300 peer-reviewed publications have included MMPI-2-RF scales

Examples in forensic/correctional settings . . .

- **Correctional settings**
  - Forbey, Ben-Porath, & Gartland (2009)
  - Sellbom (2014)
- **Risk Assessment**
  - Grossi, Green, Belfi, McGrath, Griswald, & Schreiber (2015)
  - Sellbom, Ben-Porath, Baum, Erez, & Gregory (2008)
  - Tarescavage, Glassmire, & Burchett (2016)
  - Tarescavage, Luna-Jones, & Ben-Porath (2014)
- **Psychopathy**
  - Phillips, Sellbom, Ben-Porath, & Patrick (2014)
  - Sellbom, Drislane, Johnson, Goodwin, Phillips, & Patrick (2016)
  - Sellbom, Ben-Porath, Patrick, Wygant, Gartland, & Stafford (2012)
- **Malingering**
  - Sellbom, Toomey, Wygant, Kucharski, & Duncan (2010)
  - Wygant, Sellbom, Gervais, Ben-Porath, Stafford, Freeman, & Heilbronner (2010)
  - Wall, Wygant, & Gallagher (2015)

The known or potential rate of error of the MMPI-2-RF?

Data on reliability and standard error of measurement of MMPI-2-RF scale scores address this question directly.
The known or potential rate of error of the MMPI-2-RF?

Classification Accuracy

- MMPI-2-RF Validity Scales
  - Sensitivity, Specificity, Positive Predictive Power, Negative Predictive Power, and Hit Rate
The known or potential rate of error of the MMPI-2-RF?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cutoff score</th>
<th>SN</th>
<th>SP</th>
<th>OCC*</th>
<th>PPP</th>
<th>NPP</th>
<th>PPP</th>
<th>NPP</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>T = 120</td>
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<td>.88/91</td>
<td>.88/91</td>
<td>.56/64</td>
<td>.98/98</td>
<td>.76/81</td>
<td>.95/95</td>
<td>.88/91</td>
<td>.89/89</td>
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<tr>
<td>T &gt; 115</td>
<td>.93</td>
<td>.82/84</td>
<td>.84/86</td>
<td>.47/51</td>
<td>.98/98</td>
<td>.68/72</td>
<td>.96/96</td>
<td>.83/86</td>
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<td>.99/99</td>
<td>.65/67</td>
<td>.98/98</td>
<td>.81/83</td>
<td>.95/96</td>
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<tr>
<td>T &gt; 100</td>
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<td>.72/24</td>
<td>.78/79</td>
<td>.38/40</td>
<td>.99/99</td>
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<td>.94/97</td>
<td>.88/90</td>
<td>.66/78</td>
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<td>T &gt; 100</td>
<td>.74</td>
<td>.99/92</td>
<td>.86/88</td>
<td>.56/63</td>
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<td>.67/72</td>
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<td>T &gt; 80</td>
<td>.85</td>
<td>.78/81</td>
<td>.79/82</td>
<td>.40/44</td>
<td>.97/97</td>
<td>.62/66</td>
<td>.92/93</td>
<td>.76/82</td>
<td>.84/85</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Optimal cut score is set in bold font. Values to the left of a slash are when the nonmalingering group with intermediates is used, whereas values to the right of a slash are when the nonmalingering group without intermediates is used. F-r = Infrequent Responses; F-p* = Infrequent Psychopathology Responses; SN = sensitivity; SP = specificity; OCC = overall correct classification; BR = base rate; PPP = positive predictive power; NPP = negative predictive power; T = T score.

* OCC values are based on base rates in the current sample (.22 and .23 for nonmalingering groups with and without intermediates, respectively.)

Are there standards controlling the MMPI-2-RF?
Chapter 4
Procedures for Administration and Scoring
Is the MMPI-2-RF Generally Accepted?

Frye Test

- MMPI-2-RF being used increasingly in:
  - Forensic evaluations
  - Public safety personnel screening
  - Medical evaluations
  - Mental health settings

- In many states, case law guides judges to consider “Daubert-like” factors (i.e., scientific validity and reliability)

Indications of MMPI-2-RF Acceptance

MMPI-2-RF interpretive guidelines provided in two leading MMPI textbooks:


Covered in current forensic textbooks:

Indications of MMPI-2-RF Acceptance

Listed among recommended outcome measures in Traumatic Brain Injury research compiled by Interagency Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Outcome Measures Workgroup convened by NIH


Listed among standard measures used in assessment of the psychological effects of pain

Indications of MMPI-2-RF Acceptance

Listed among measures in proposed practice guidelines for assessments of child sexual abusers


Listed as recommended measure in guide to establishing a practice on police pre-employment psychological evaluations


Indications of MMPI-2-RF Acceptance

Only personality inventory included among measures for assessing mental health as part of the NFL settlement with retired players:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test</th>
<th>Symptoms/Functioning</th>
<th>Assessment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MMPI-2-RF</td>
<td>Mental Health Assessment</td>
<td>Evaluation of Validity Scales and Configurations; T-Scores for Symptom Domains</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mini International Neuropsychiatric Interview (M.I.N.I. Version 5.0.0)</td>
<td>Semi-structured Psychiatric Interview</td>
<td>Scale Criteria for Various Psychiatric Diagnoses</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Baseline Neuropsychology Test Battery and Specific Impairment Criteria for Retired NFL Football Players. Exhibit 2, Section 5, p. 9: Mental Health Assessment.*
Indications of MMPI-2-RF Acceptance

Highlighted in Institute of Medicine (IOM) report to US Congress: Psychological Testing in the Service of Disability Determination:

Discussed favorably in growing number of books and book chapters:


Indications of MMPI-2-RF Acceptance

Discussed favorably in growing number of books and book chapters:


Indications of MMPI-2-RF Acceptance

Cited in growing number of Federal and State appellate court decisions:


Case Example

52 y.o., never married, A-A man
Second opinion evaluation
Found NGRI for Aggravated Murder after shooting his father to death
23 years earlier
Previous hospitalizations for Paranoid Schizophrenia
Denied conditional release twice before
Continues to exhibit substantial persecutory delusions about imposters, communist spies, his former work-place, and local Sheriff’s and Police Departments
MMPI-2-RF Externalizing, Interpersonal, and Interest Scales

Extroversion

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Raw Score</th>
<th>T Score</th>
<th>Percentile</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 2 5 5 5 5 1 0 4 1 3 2</td>
<td>57 57 57 57 57 57 57 57 57 57 57 57</td>
<td>100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Comparison Group Data: Forensic, Pre-trial Criminal (Male), N = 511

Mean Score: 57 57 57 57 57 57 57 57 57 57 57 57

Standard Deviation: 14 14 14 14 14 14 14 14 14 14 14 14

The highest and lowest T scores possible on each scale are indicated by ** and * respectively. MMPI-2-RF T scores are non-gendered.

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MMPI-2-RF PSY-5 Scales

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Raw Score</th>
<th>T Score</th>
<th>Percentile</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3</td>
<td>65 65 65 65 65 65 65 65 65 65 65 65</td>
<td>100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Comparison Group Data: Forensic, Pre-trial Criminal (Male), N = 511


The highest and lowest T scores possible on each scale are indicated by ** and * respectively. MMPI-2-RF T scores are non-gendered.

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AGS: Aggressiveness
AGS+: Aggressiveness Revised
PSY+: Psychotics Revised
MIS+: Schizophrenic/Disorganization Revised
NPI+: Nonschizophrenic/Poor Personality Revised
ASCI+: Anxious/Anxious-Depression Revised
Stay Tuned – Release April 2018

Thank you!

QUESTIONS?

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