

From Research to Practice: A Preliminary Report of the C-DISC on Dimensions of Clinician, Patient and Caretaker Satisfaction

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Abstract

This paper examines how a computerized assessment instrument, the C-DISC, originally developed for use in epidemiological research affects clinical practice when used with outpatients. While the use of research findings in practice has received considerable attention, few studies have examined how computer-based assessment instruments affect practice. The stress on using research findings in practice is based on the assumption that such use would strengthen the validity of the information used by practitioners as they assess, intervene and evaluate their practice. Similarly, the use of assessment instruments developed through research and standardized through a computerized protocol should enhance the validity of the information used by practitioners in community outpatient practice. This article examines dimensions of clinician, patient and caretaker satisfaction. Effects of the C-DISC on diagnosis, symptom identification and treatment planning are examined elsewhere.