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## Developing and Validating Rapid Assessment Instruments

Rely on Ovid as the trusted solution that transforms research into results



This pocket guide provides a comprehensive start-to-finish overview of the basics of scale development, giving practical guidance that practitioners at all levels will be able to put to use.

Despite increases in their application and improvements in their structure, there is a paucity of reliable and valid scales compared to the complex range of problems that social workers and other health professionals confront daily. They need to be able to design rapid assessment instruments (RAIs) to fit their specific situations, and with this step-by-step guide by RAI experts, that prospect will be much less intimidating.

For each stage of RAI development, from conceptualization through design, data collection, and analysis, the authors identify critical concerns, ground them in the growing conceptual and empirical psychometric literature, and offer practical advice. A presentation of the basics of construct conceptualization and the search for evidence of validity is complemented by introductions to concept mapping and cross-cultural translation, as well as an in-depth discussion of cutting-edge topics like bias and invariance in item responses. In addition, they critique and illustrate factor analysis in exploratory and confirmatory strategies, offering guidance for anticipating elements of a complete data collection instrument, determining sampling frame and size, and interpreting resulting coefficients.

#### Features:

- \* A thorough yet unintimidating introduction to the most important aspects of scale creation and use.
- \* Focuses on social work applications, with real-world case examples.
- \* Written by experienced researchers and teachers using approachable, readily comprehensible language.
- \* Provides grounding methodological and conceptual ideas, referencing the history of key concepts across disciplines.
- \* Integrates qualitative methods and strategies in instrument design and development.
- \* Offers enhanced discussion on recruitment and use of focus groups and expert panels.

Publication Year	2009
Edition	1st
Author/Editor	Abell, Neil; Springer, David W.; Kamata, Akihito
Publisher	Oxford University Press (OUP)
ISBN	978-0-195-33336-7
Platform	Ovid
Product Type	Book
Speciality	Social Work

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Language	English
Pages	232
Illustrations	0

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