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Title: Translation, Adaptation and Cross-Cultural Validation of Hearing Handicap Inventory for Adult in Malay Language

Author(s): Zam, TZHBTZ (Zam, Tengku Zulaila Hasma Binti Tengku Zam); Dzulkarnain, AAA (Dzulkarnain, Ahmad Aidil Arafat); Rahmat, S (Rahmat, Sarah); Jusoh, M (Jusoh, Masnira)

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Abstract: Background and Objectives: Sine a self-reported questionnaire for hearing-impaired listeners is not available by Malay language yet, it is important to develop or translate any available existing questionnaires. The aim of this study was to translate, adapt and validate the Hearing Handicap Inventory for Adult (HHIA) to be used by the audiologist among the hearing-impaired population in Malaysia. Subjects and Methods: The HHIAs was translated to Malay language using forward-backward translation techniques by four-panellists (two for each level). The translated HHIA was then reconciled and harmonized for cultural aspects and content of the questionnaire by the researchers and two expert panels before being pilot-tested among 10 hearing-impaired patients. Questionnaire validation was conducted among 80 adults with a heating loss to calculate for Cronbach's a (internal reliability), Spearman's correlation (inter-item correlation) and factor analysis. Results: None of the translated items were removed from the scale. The overall Cronbach's a was 0.964; 0.927 and 0.934 for both social and emotional subscales, respectively. The factor analysis (force-concept inventory) demonstrated a two-structure with a strong correlation between all items in either component 1 or 2, that resembled the original scale. The Mann-Whitney test revealed significantly higher scores for those adults with a hearing loss than those adults with normal hearing. Conclusions: The Malay HHIA has bean successfully translated and validated for the purpose of determining the psychosocial aspects of adults with hearing loss in the local population.

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Addresses: [Zam, Tengku Zulaila Hasma Binti Tengku Zam; Dzulkarnain, Ahmad Aidil Arafat; Rahmat, Sarah; Jusoh, Masnira] Int Islamic Univ Malaysia, Kulliyyah Allied Hlth Sci, Dept Audiol & Speech Language Pathol, Jalan Sultan Ahmad Shah, Kuantan 25200, Pahang, Malaysia.

Reprint Address: Dzulkarnain, AAA (reprint author), Int Islamic Univ Malaysia, Kulliyyah Allied Hlth Sci, Dept Audiol & Speech Language Pathol, Jalan Sultan Ahmad Shah, Kuantan 25200, Pahang, Malaysia.

E-mail Addresses: ahmadaidil@iium.edu.my
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