

MMPI-2 INTERPRETIVE STRATEGY

Test-taking Attitudes

- Questions
 - Are the results invalid?
If so, stop the interpretation.
 - Are there test-taking factors (e.g., defensiveness, exaggeration) that suggest that interpretation of other MMPI-2 data should be modified?
 - Are the MMPI-2 scores likely to yield accurate picture of test taker?

- Sources of information
 - Individual validity scales
 - Content non-responsive (CNR) Faking
 - Cannot Say (?) “scale”
 - VRIN scale
 - TRIN scale
 - F scale/ F_B scale
 - Content responsive Faking (CRF)
 - F scale/ F_B scale
 - F_p scale
 - FBS
 - L scale
 - K scale
 - S scale
 - Validity scale configuration
 - Compare with prototypes for invalid responding (e.g., faking good, malingering)

General Level of Adjustment/ Maladjustment

- Questions
 - How much emotional distress is being experienced?
 - How well does the person cope with demands of life situation?

- Sources of Information
 - Distress
 - Clinical scales (2, 7)
 - Content scales (DEP, ANX)
 - RC scales (RCd, RC2, RC7)
 - Coping
 - Mean T score for clinical scales; profile elevation on printout
 - RCd scale
 - Welsh's Anxiety (A) scale
 - Ego Strength (Es) scale

Characteristic Traits and Behaviors

- Question
 - How should we describe the test-taker's symptoms, problems, and personality characteristics?
- Sources of Information
 - Well-defined code types
 - Individual scales
 - Clinical
 - Restructured Clinical
 - Content
 - Supplementary
 - PSY-5

- **Resolving Inconsistencies**
 - More confidence in descriptors based on code types than on individual scales
 - More confidence in descriptors based on scales with higher scores
 - More confidence in descriptors based on scales that are more valid in relation to the specific behavior

- **Organization of inferences**
 - Symptoms
 - Major needs
 - Perceptions of the environment
 - Reactions to stress
 - Self-concept
 - Emotional control
 - Interpersonal relationships
 - Psychological resources

Diagnostic Impressions

- Question
 - What diagnostic labels are consistent with the MMPI-2 data?
- Sources of Information
 - Well-defined code types
 - Individual scales
 - Clinical scales
 - RC scales
 - Content and Content Component scales
 - Supplementary scales
 - PSY-5 scales
 - High order inferences

Treatment Implications

- Questions
 - Is treatment indicated (needed)?
 - What is the person's motivation for treatment?
 - What kind of treatment is indicated?
 - What can we expect from the person in treatment?
 - Will the person remain in treatment long enough to benefit?
 - Will the person show positive change in treatment?

- Sources of information
 - Validity scales
 - Well-defined code types
 - Individual Clinical, Content, & RC scales
 - PSY-5 scales
 - Supplementary/content scales
 - Ego Strength (Es) scale
 - Negative Treatment Indicators (TRT) scale