

Development Of ISCM Manasa Mini-Social Cognition And Emotions Assessment (ISCM Manasa-Mini-SEA) Test

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ABSTRACT

Background:This article introduces the development, adaptation, and validation of the ISCM-Manasa Mini-SEA, an assessment tool tailored to evaluate social cognition among individuals with schizophrenia within the Indian population.

Methods:The study delineates the adaptation process, meticulous cultural relevance considerations, and rigorous validation methodologies employed. A diverse sample of 770 individuals diagnosed with chronic schizophrenia and 150 healthy controls accompanying the patients was included.

Results:The findings highlight the tool's dual strength: scientific robustness and cultural relevance, making it well-suited for India's multifaceted population.

Conclusions:The ISCM Manasa Mini-SEA represents a significant advancement in assessing social cognition in schizophrenia within the Indian cultural setting. Its development and validation underscore the critical need for culturally sensitive assessment tools, offering promise for improving diagnostic processes, intervention strategies, and research on schizophrenia in India.

Keywords: Schizophrenia, Social Cognition, Indian tool

Introduction

Social cognition is one of the parameters of individuals with chronic schizophrenia for monitoring the functional outcome. It affects their ability to understand and engage in social interactions and maintain relationships. Social cognition refers to the mental operations underlying social interactions, which include the human ability to perceive the intentions, dispositions, and beliefs of others. It encompasses processes such as the recognition of emotional states, understanding social cues and norms, theory of mind (the ability to understand others' mental states), and attributional reasoning (how people explain others' behavior). (Adolphs, 1999) Understanding and monitoring social cognition in patients with schizophrenia is pivotal for devising effective interventions and outcomes. (Green et al., 2005) While a range of assessment tools exists for evaluating social cognition, the unique cultural context of India poses specific challenges that these tools may not adequately address. (Mehta et al., 2011) The development of the ISCM Manasa Mini-SEA aims to fill this gap by providing a culturally adapted tool that is sensitive to the nuances of Indian social dynamics.

The multifaceted nature of social cognition, which includes emotion recognition, theory of mind, attributional bias, and social perception, necessitates thorough assessment methodologies. Various instruments are employed to measure social cognitive abilities in individuals with schizophrenia, where deficits in these areas are commonly observed. (Couture et al., 2006)

The Mayer-Salovey-Caruso Emotional Intelligence Test (MSCEIT) (Mayer et al., 2003) evaluates multiple branches of emotional intelligence, including perceiving, using, understanding and managing emotions. It has demonstrated utility in detecting social cognitive impairments in schizophrenia.

The "Reading the Mind in the Eyes" Test (Baron-Cohen et al., 2001) assesses the theory of mind and emotion recognition abilities. Participants are shown photographs of people's eyes and instructed to choose which emotion the eyes express. Lower scores on this test have been found in schizophrenia patients.

The Awareness of Social Inference Test (TASIT) (McDonald et al., 2003) evaluates complex social cognition through audiovisual stimuli comprising short social scenes. It measures abilities like sarcasm detection, white lies, social faux pas and impression formation. The TASIT discriminates well between schizophrenia patients and healthy controls.

The Facial Expression of Emotion Stimuli and Tests assess facial emotion recognition from photographs of facial expressions (Nijssen et al., 2019). Deficits measured by this test have been found in schizophrenia. The Facial Emotion Recognition Test evaluates the ability to identify basic emotions from photographs of facial expressions.

Jayaram et al. used the Facial Expression of Emotion Stimuli and Tests to measure facial emotion recognition before and after yoga therapy (Jayaram et al., 2013). Govindaraj et al. employed the Facial Emotion Recognition Test and Social Inference- Minimal Faux Pas test to evaluate social cognition in female outpatients with schizophrenia receiving yoga (Govindaraj et al., 2021). Behere et al. also used the Facial Expression of Emotion Stimuli and Tests to assess facial emotion recognition in patients randomized to yoga therapy versus routine care (Behere et al., 2011). A review by Govindaraj and Varambally cites several yoga studies for schizophrenia that utilized measures like the Facial Emotion Recognition Test, Faux Pas Test, Hinting Task and Attributional Style Questionnaire to assess social cognition (Govindaraj et al., 2021). Social Cognition Rating Tool in Indian Setting (SOCRATIS) is a comprehensive tool developed at NIMHANS (Mehta et al., 2011). These tools demonstrate the potential of yoga to improve social cognitive deficits, which are core features of the illness (Kaligal et al., 2022).

The Mini Social-Emotional Assessment (Mini-SEA) is a condensed version of the comprehensive Social-Emotional Assessment (SEA) (Funkiewiez et al., 2012). It comprises two essential components for evaluating social cognition in schizophrenia: the Faux Pas Test and the Face Emotion Recognition section. The Faux Pas Test features five short stories containing social blunders, assessing theory of mind abilities and the interpretation of social cues and norms often impaired in schizophrenia. Meanwhile, the Face Emotion Recognition section presents participants with 10 photographs of facial expressions, evaluating emotion perception, a key aspect of social cognition affected by schizophrenia.

The Mini-SEA offers an efficient tool for evaluating social cognition and emotional functioning, encompassing tasks related to theory of mind, emotion recognition, and social problem-solving. Unlike the full SEA, the Mini-SEA achieves these objectives with tasks that save valuable time, making it suitable for settings with time constraints or as a screening tool. Together, these components contribute to a comprehensive understanding of social cognition in schizophrenia, demonstrating validity, reliability, and sensitivity to change.

However, the Mini-SEA's development within Western cultural frameworks may limit its applicability to the Indian context, underscoring the need for culturally adapted tools to accurately assess social cognition in Indian populations. Introducing the ISCM Manasa Mini-SEA, a culturally adapted version of the Mini-SEA tailored for the Indian context, emphasizes the importance of cultural relevance in psychological assessments.

Methodology

In adapting the Mini-SEA assessment tool to the nuances and customs of India, a culturally tailored version known as the ISCM Manasa Mini-SEA was developed. The selection of faux pas stories and the faces with emotions was based on a pilot study conducted prior to the main study, which resulted in the removal of one of the basic emotions, "Disgust."

This adaptation includes faux pas events that reflect Indian social norms and feature familiar Indian faces (refer to Appendix), enhancing cultural relevance and relatability. The events are culturally congruent, and the faces depict a renowned South Indian comedian, Mr. Brahmanandam, celebrated for his diverse facial expressions and expressive emotive performances. The Indian adaptation of the Mini-SEA was specifically designed to cater to Telugu-speaking populations rendered in the Telugu language. Moreover, the faux pas stories used in the test are also rendered in Telugu, with English translations provided alongside for clarity.

The ISCM Manasa Mini-SEA underwent rigorous validation to ensure its effectiveness, utilizing a diverse sample group comprising 770 patients diagnosed with chronic schizophrenia and 150 control participants. The validation process employed various statistical analyses, including assessments of reliability, concurrent validity, and discriminant validity, to confirm the tool's suitability for assessing social cognition within the Indian population. Additionally, to enhance cultural relevance and applicability, the test materials were

translated into Telugu, targeting the Telugu-speaking population. This adaptation process ensured representation of a significant segment of the Indian population, particularly prevalent in regions such as Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.

Results

The results of the validation study provide valuable insights into the effectiveness and applicability of the ISCM Manasa Mini-SEA in assessing social cognition within the Indian population. Through a meticulous validation process, including diverse sample recruitment and statistical analyses, the study aimed to establish the reliability, validity, and cultural relevance of the adapted assessment tool. The findings offer robust evidence supporting the instrument's utility in accurately measuring social cognitive abilities among individuals with schizophrenia in India. This section presents the key results obtained from various analyses, shedding light on the internal consistency, concurrent validity, and discriminant validity of the ISCM Manasa Mini-SEA. Additionally, the tables provided offer detailed statistical summaries and comparisons essential for understanding the instrument's performance and implications for clinical practice and research.

In this study, demographic variables including gender, age, marital status, education, religion, social status, economic status, and occupation were meticulously matched between the patient group (n=770) and the control group (n=150), demonstrating no significant differences and ensuring the validity of our findings.

Pearson Correlation between Face Emotion Recognition (FER) and Faux Pas (FP) Test Scores

Table 1 provides descriptive statistics for the Face Emotion Recognition (FER) and Faux Pas (FP) test scores. The mean, standard deviation, and sample size for both FER and FP tests are presented, indicating the central tendency and variability of scores in the sample of 920 participants.

Table 1 also displays the Pearson correlation between the Face Emotion Recognition (FER) and Faux Pas (FP) test scores. A significant positive correlation of 0.413** ($p < .001$, two-tailed) is observed between FER and FP scores, indicating a moderate positive relationship between the ability to recognize facial emotions and understanding social faux pas in the study sample.

Table 1: Pearson Correlation between FER and FP Test Scores

Statistic	Description	FER	FP
N	Number of samples	920	920
Mean	Average score	7.0522	5.1239
Standard Deviation	Variation in scores	1.99877	2.74761
Pearson Correlation	Correlation with FER	1	0.413**
	Correlation with FP	0.413**	1
Significance (2-tailed)	With FP	.000	.000
FER stands for Face Emotions Recognition Test			
FP stands for Faux Pas Test			
** The correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).			

Non-parametric Correlation between Face Emotion Recognition (FER) and Faux pas (FP) Test Scores

Table 2 presents the non-parametric correlation analysis between Face Emotion Recognition (FER) and Faux Pas (FP) test scores, utilizing Kendall's Tau and Spearman's Rho coefficients. These non-parametric measures assess the strength and direction of the relationship between FER and FP scores, providing insights into the association between facial emotion recognition and understanding social faux pas in the study sample of 920 participants with statistically significant result ($p < .001$, two-tailed).

Table 2: Non-parametric (Kendall's Tau & Spearman's Rho) correlation between FER and FP Test Scores

Correlations				
			FER	FP
Kendall's tau_b	FER	Correlation Coefficient	1.000	.315**
		Sig. (2-tailed)	.	.000
		N	920	920
	FP	Correlation Coefficient	.315**	1.000
		Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.
		N	920	920
Spearman's rho	FER	Correlation Coefficient	1.000	.412**
		Sig. (2-tailed)	.	.000
		N	920	920
	FP	Correlation Coefficient	.412**	1.000
		Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.
		N	920	920
FER stands for Face Emotions Recognition Test				
FP stands for Faux Pas Test				
** The correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).				

Comparative Analysis of Mini-SEA Scores Between Patient and Normal Groups

Investigating the effectiveness of the ISCM Manasa Mini-SEA in the Indian context, a comparative analysis was conducted between two distinct groups: a patient cohort comprising 770 individuals diagnosed with schizophrenia and a control group of 150 healthy controls. The objective was to ascertain any statistically significant disparities in their responses to the adapted instrument, thereby validating its utility within the Indian milieu. The analysis encompassed three sets of tables, each focusing on different aspects of the Mini-SEA scores. Table 3 presents descriptive statistics for Face Emotion Recognition (FER) scores, offering insights into the mean values and variability within each group. Table 3 delves into the independent samples test, examining the equality of variances and means for FER scores across the patient and control groups, thereby elucidating any significant differences in their performance.

Table - 3: Independent Samples Test: Equality of Means for FER Scores of two groups

Group	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean
FER (Patients)	770	6.8623	2.03398	0.07330
FER (Controls)	150	8.0267	1.46524	0.11964
t-test for Equality of Means (Equal variances not assumed*)				
t = -8.299, df = 274.369, Sig. (2-tailed) = .000**, Mean Difference = -1.16433, Std. Error Difference = 0.14031, 95% CI Lower = -1.44054, 95% CI Upper = -0.88812				
FER stands for Face Emotions Recognition Test * As per Levene's Test result ** The difference in means of both groups is statistically significant. P < 0.001				

Table 4 presents the descriptive statistics and results of independent samples tests for the Faux Pas (FP) scores between patient and control groups.

Table - 4: Independent Samples Test: Equality of Means for FP Scores of two groups

Group	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean
FP (Patients)	770	4.5013	2.46233	0.08874
FP (Controls)	150	8.0267	1.46524	0.11964
t-test for Equality of Means (Equal variances not assumed*)				
t = -22.916, df = 281.737, Sig. (2-tailed) = .000**, Mean Difference = -3.81870, Std. Error Difference = 0.16664, 95% CI Lower = -4.14672, 95% CI Upper = -3.49069				
FP stands for Faux Pas Test * As per Levene's Test result ** The difference in means of both groups is statistically significant. P < 0.001				

Table 5 provides insights into the descriptive statistics and outcomes of independent samples tests for ISCM Manasa Mini-SEA scores, offering comparisons between patients and controls. These findings shed light on the efficacy and applicability of the adapted assessment tool within the Indian context.

Table - 5: Independent Samples Test: Equality of Means for ISCM Manasa Mini-SEA Scores of two groups

Group	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean
Mini SEA (Patients)	770	11.3636	3.71448	0.13386
Mini SEA (Controls)	150	16.3467	2.64952	0.21633
t-test for Equality of Means (Equal variances not assumed*)				
t = -19.588, df = 277.071, Sig. (2-tailed) = .000**, Mean Difference = -4.98303, Std. Error Difference = 0.25440, 95% CI Lower = -5.48383, 95% CI Upper = -4.48223				
* As per Levene's Test result				
** The difference in means of both groups is statistically significant.				
P < 0.001				

The analyses conducted revealed clear distinctions between patient and control groups, showcasing the anticipated impairments in social cognition tasks among patients. Descriptive statistics for Face Emotion Recognition (FER) and Faux Pas (FP) test scores provided valuable insights into the spectrum of social cognition abilities within the sample. Furthermore, correlation analyses underscored the interconnected nature of different social cognition aspects evaluated by the ISCM Manasa Mini-SEA, reaffirming its validity as a comprehensive assessment tool for the Indian population. Overall, these findings validate the efficacy and suitability of the ISCM Manasa Mini-SEA for evaluating social cognition among individuals with schizophrenia in India. Additionally, the results highlighted a positive correlation between age and social cognition scores among control participants, suggesting potential age-related variations in social cognitive abilities within the general population.

Discussion

The successful adaptation and validation of the ISCM Manasa Mini-SEA underscore the critical importance of cultural sensitivity in developing psychological assessment tools. By incorporating culturally relevant scenarios and expressions, this tool addresses the limitations of existing assessments and offers a more accurate evaluation of social cognition in individuals with schizophrenia in India.

These findings have significant implications for clinical practice and research. The ISCM Manasa Mini-SEA has the potential to enhance the accuracy of social cognition evaluations, leading to more tailored interventions and improved therapeutic outcomes for individuals with schizophrenia. Moreover, culturally adapting assessment tools increases the ecological validity of findings and provides insights for future research on culturally diverse populations.

Challenges remain in extending the application of the ISCM Manasa Mini-SEA across India's diverse linguistic and cultural landscape. Future research should focus on addressing these challenges and refining the tool to ensure its effectiveness across different cultural contexts. Exploring the longitudinal stability of social cognition scores measured by the ISCM Manasa Mini-SEA and investigating its responsiveness to interventions aimed at improving social cognitive functioning in individuals with schizophrenia are important directions for future research. The broader significance of culturally sensitive assessment tools in global mental health research and practice is highlighted, emphasizing the importance of reducing mental health disparities and improving outcomes worldwide.

Conclusion

The ISCM Manasa Mini-SEA represents a significant advancement in assessing social cognition in schizophrenia within the Indian cultural setting. Its development and validation underscore the critical need for culturally sensitive assessment tools in psychology. By facilitating accurate assessments of social cognition, the ISCM Manasa Mini-SEA holds promise for improving diagnostic processes, intervention strategies, and research on schizophrenia, thereby enhancing the quality of care for affected individuals in India.

Furthermore, the ISCM Manasa Mini-SEA sets a precedent for developing psychologically robust and culturally relevant assessment tools. The study's approach to cultural sensitivity, combined with rigorous statistical validation, highlights the importance of creating assessments suitable for diverse populations. Moving forward, it is imperative for future research to continue addressing these challenges, ensuring that psychological assessments are accessible and effective for all individuals, regardless of cultural backgrounds. The ISCM Manasa Mini-SEA represents a significant step towards this goal, offering a validated instrument tailored to

the Indian context and contributing to the advancement of culturally sensitive psychological assessment methodologies.

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APPENDIX

ISCM Manasa Mini-SEA Test

**FACE EMOTION RECOGNITION TEST**

Name: _____ YSR# _____ Hosp# _____

Date: _____

బొమ్మలో వ్యక్తి ముఖకవళికలు ఏలాంటి వ్యక్తం చేస్తున్నవి?

What emotion is expressed by this person's face?

1. a) భయం Fear b) కోపం Anger c) దుఃఖం Sadness
d) ఆనందం Happiness e) కుతూహలం Curiosity
2. a) కుతూహలం Curiosity b) ఆశ్చర్యం Surprise c) సిగ్గు Shyness
d) కంటిదనం Naughtiness e) ఆత్మవిశ్వాసం Self-Confidence
3. a) కంటిదనం Naughtiness b) ఆత్మవిశ్వాసం Self-Confidence c) వినయం Obedience
d) భయం Fear e) కోపం Anger
4. a) కోపం Anger b) దుఃఖం Sadness c) ఆనందం Happiness
d) కుతూహలం Curiosity e) ఆశ్చర్యం Surprise
5. a) కుతూహలం Curiosity b) ఆశ్చర్యం Surprise c) సిగ్గు Shyness
d) కంటిదనం Naughtiness e) ఆత్మవిశ్వాసం Self-Confidence
6. a) ఆశ్చర్యం Surprise b) సిగ్గు Shyness c) కంటిదనం Naughtiness
d) ఆత్మవిశ్వాసం Self-Confidence e) వినయం Obedience
7. a) కంటిదనం Naughtiness b) ఆత్మవిశ్వాసం Self-Confidence c) వినయం Obedience
d) భయం Fear e) కోపం Anger
8. a) వినయం Obedience b) భయం Fear c) కోపం Anger
d) దుఃఖం Sadness e) ఆనందం Happiness
9. a) ఆనందం Happiness b) కుతూహలం Curiosity c) ఆశ్చర్యం Surprise
d) సిగ్గు Shyness e) కంటిదనం Naughtiness
10. a) కుతూహలం Curiosity b) ఆశ్చర్యం Surprise c) సిగ్గు Shyness
d) కంటిదనం Naughtiness a) ఆనందం Happiness

Faux Pas Recognition Test

Name _____ YSR# _____ Hosp# _____
 Date _____
 No response/Wrong response 0
 Correct response 1
 Correct response with appropriate explanation 2
 Maximum Score 10

సామాజికప్రవర్తన లో చొరపాటు అంశం ఏదైనా గమనిస్తే గుర్తించండి.

1. రామారావు సుబ్బారావు ఒక ఆఫీసులో పని చేస్తున్నారు. ఒక రోజు రామారావు దంపతులను సుబ్బారావు తన ఇంట్లో బోకనం చేయడానికి పిలిచాడు. బోకనాలు పూర్తయిన తర్వాత వాళ్ళు కలుగు చెప్పుకుంటూ కూర్చున్నారు. అప్పుడు సుబ్బారావు భార్య రామారావుతో అంది "మీ గోదావరి జిల్లాల వాళ్ళకి ఎంతైనా తిండి పుష్టి ఎక్కువే!"
2. ఆఫీసు వార్షికోత్సవం పంక్షన్ కి విష్ణుమూర్తి తన భార్యను కోడుకును కూడా తీసుకెళ్ళాడు వాళ్ళకి ఎదురొచ్చిన సుగుణ "ఏవిటి! ఇతను మీ అబ్బాయి! మీరిద్దరూ తెల్లగా చొడుగ్గా ఉంటే ఇతను ఇంత నల్లగా చొట్టెగా ఉన్నాడేమిటి?" అని ఆశ్చర్యంగా అడిగింది.
3. సూర్యం, సుజాత మధ్య వయస్కులైన దంపతులు. పార్కులో మార్నింగ్ వాక్ చేస్తుండగా, శిఖర్ ఎదురుపడ్డాడు. భర్తకి శిఖర్ ని చిన్నప్పుడు కాలేజీ క్లాస్మేట్ అని పరిచయం చేసింది. శిఖరు తేరిపారి చూస్తూ అన్నాడు, " ఇలా చిక్కవోయావేమిటి! ఒకప్పుడు ఎంత కండపుష్టితో ఉండేవానివి! ఆ రోజుల్లో మనం వారానికోసినమా అయినా క్లాసులోగ్గట్టి దూసివాళ్ళం కదా! ఆరోజులు మళ్ళీ రమ్మన్నా రావు కదా!"
4. "మీ హోటల్లో సాంబారు ఇంత రుచిగా ఉంటుంది! ఏవిటి కారణం?" అని కుతూహలంగా పురుషోత్తం అడిగాడు. సర్వరు తాపీగా సమాధానం చెప్పాడు "ముందురోజు మిగిలిపోయిన పదలు, బజ్జీలు రుచ్చేసి కలిపి ఉడకబెట్టిస్తాం కదా! రుచి రాక ఏం చేస్తుంది"
5. సుబ్బర్షమ్మ కారు దిగి పాస్ లోకి ప్రవేశిస్తుంటే, ఎదురుగా తిరిగిన మొహం లా కనిపించింది. అదే మన పల్లెటూర్లో ఉండి నువ్వు ఇక్కడున్నావేమిటి!" అని అడిగింది. అతను చాలా వినయంగా, "ఈ షాపులో సెక్యూరిటీ గార్డ్ ఉద్యోగం దొరికిందమ్మా, సంతోషంగానే ఉంది, నెలకి పదివేలు ఇస్తారు!" సంబరంగా అన్నాడు. "మా ఇంట్లో గదులు తుడిచే నొబరుకిస్తాం పదిహేనువేలు" అంది.

Faux Pas Recognition Test

Name _____ YSR# _____ Hosp# _____
Date _____

No response/Wrong response 0

Correct response 1

Correct response with appropriate explanation 2

Maximum Score 10

Instructions:

Below, you will find descriptions of various social situations. Please identify if you notice anything inappropriate in social behavior and explain if you can.

1. Rama Rao and Subbarao work in the same office. One day, Subbarao invited Rama Rao and his spouse to dinner at his home. After finishing the meal, they sat chatting. Subbarao's wife then said to Rama Rao, "I see my belief that people from your Godavari districts have quite the appetite has been confirmed!"
2. Vishnumurti attended the office's annual function, accompanied by his wife and son. Encountering them, his colleague Suneetha exclaimed, "What a surprise! This is your son? Both of you are so fair and tall, how did he end up being so dark and short?"
3. Surya and Sujatha, a middle-aged couple, were on their morning walk when they ran into Shekhar. Sujatha introduced him as her old college classmate. Shekhar looked Surya up and down and said, "You've lost so much weight! What happened to that robust figure you had? Remember how we used to skip classes to go to the movies together every week?"
4. "The sambar in your hotel is incredibly tasty! What's the secret behind it?" Purushottam asked, his curiosity piqued. The server responded somewhat sharply, "We grind the leftover vadas and bajjis from the previous day and boil them together in the pot. That's what makes the flavor so unique!"
5. Subhadhramma was getting out of her car to enter a shop when she recognized a familiar face. "Hey, aren't you from our village? What are you doing here?" she inquired. The man replied humbly, "I've found a job here as a security guard, earning ten thousand a month, and I'm content." Subhadhramma retorted, "I pay my sweeper fifteen thousand every month."