

Elaboration and Evidence of Validity of a Test of Scientific Knowledge about HIV/AIDS

Abstract

The aim of this research was to develop and validate a test to measure levels of scientific knowledge about HIV/AIDS. Two studies were conducted, in the first test items were constructed, 23 adults participated, and from which four were experts on HIV/AIDS. In the second the psychometric properties were verified, 480 people participated, mean age of 25.4 years, 67.7% were women. The final test consisted of 85 items in the form of affirmative statements. The mean number of correct answers was 49 points, 57.6% of the test answered correctly. Increases in age, education and working in the area of health were predictors of higher levels of knowledge. The test showed adequate levels of validity and reliability and can be used in further measurements.

Keywords: psychological testing; knowledge acquisition; acquired immunodeficiency syndrome; human immunodeficiency virus; test construction.