

CO-DEVELOPERS OF THE SDIS

Professional Qualifications of the Content Validation Committee

In order to validate the content of this sleep inventory and ensure that the correct questions were included in the SDIS, a committee of professionals, who were recognized as experts in the fields of sleep medicine or testing and measurement, were asked to rate the inventory items of the SDIS for their accuracy in measuring the sleep disorders it purports to measure. The SDIS' Content Validation Committee was composed of nine members: six who were nationally respected sleep specialists; the seventh was an Asian-American Professor and is considered a national expert in the development of inventories and questionnaires; the eighth and ninth are school psychologists, one who is African-American, and one who is Hispanic-American, both considered highly knowledgeable experts in the use of testing and screening instruments. The latter three experts evaluated the SDIS on its' measurement and psychometric qualities, as well as ensuring that it contained no improper wording or bias toward members of their cultures. A brief summary of the experts' qualifications are presented below in alphabetical order:

1. W. McDowell Anderson, M.D., is a Pulmonologist and the Director of the Sleep Clinics at the James A. Haley VA Hospital and Tampa General Hospital in Tampa, FL. He was also former President of the Southeastern Sleep Disorders Association;

(2) Christine Acebo, Ph.D., is Professor of Instrumentation and Methodology in Statistics and Mathematics at Brown University and Bradley Sleep Research Lab at E.P. Bradley Hospital in Providence, R.I. Dr. Acebo has authored numerous professional journal articles on sleep disorders;

(3) Mary A. Carskadon, Ph.D., is Professor of Neuro and Biobehavioral Science, Sleep Deprivation, and Biological Rhythms at Brown University and Director of the Sleep Research Lab at E.P. Bradley Hospital in Providence, R.I. Dr. Carskadon was the co-developer of the Multiple Sleep Latency Test (MSLT) used to help diagnose narcolepsy and sleep deprivation in sleep clinics nationwide. She is former President of the Sleep Research Society, Editor of the Encyclopedia of Sleep and Dreaming, and author of numerous professional journal articles on Narcolepsy, Delayed Sleep Phase Syndrome, and sleep deprivation;

(4) Gahan P. Falone, Ph.D., is a Clinical Psychologist and Professor of Neurophysiology at Brown University in Providence, R.I. He has authored numerous professional journal articles on sleep disorders;

(5) William C. Kohler, M.D., is a Pediatric Neurologist and formerly Medical Director at the Sleep Center in Billings, MT. He is presently Director of the Pediatric Sleep Center at University Community Hospital in Tampa, FL. Dr. Kohler has written numerous journal articles on sleep disorders and other neurology topics;

(6) Amy Wolfson, Ph.D., is Professor of Psychology at the College of Holy Cross in Worcester, MA. She is author of numerous professional journal articles on Excessive Daytime Sleepiness (EDS) and Insomnia;

(7) Madabi Chatterji, Ph.D., is Associate Professor in Measurement, Evaluation, and Education at Columbia University. She has published numerous professional journal articles on measurement, educational evaluation, and survey instruments, including a university textbook entitled *Designing and Using Tools for Educational Assessment* (2003). Dr. Chatterji's country of origin is India, and therefore, she not only helped develop the Likert-scale scoring format used in the SDIS, but also gave feedback on the language clarity of SDIS items for Asian-American readers;

(8) Debra Rose, Ph.D., is Assistant Professor of School Psychology at the University of South Florida and a School Psychologist in the Hillsborough County, FL School District in Tampa. Dr. Rose rated the SDIS items for cultural bias and clarity from the viewpoint of an African-American reader;

(9) Rosa Assing-Tucker, Ph.D., is a bilingual School Psychologist in the Hillsborough County, FL School District in Tampa. She rated the SDIS items for cultural bias and clarity from the viewpoint of a Hispanic reader.

There was 94% agreement by the six sleep specialists on which items should be included in the SDIS (94% Content Validity), which is very high for a screening instrument.