



UNC CFAR Social and Behavioral Science Research Core SABI Database

INSTRUMENT TITLE: Composite Abuse Scale

SOURCE ARTICLE: Hegarty, K., Sheehan, M., & Schonfeld, C. (1999). A multidimensional definition of partner abuse: Development and preliminary validation of the composite abuse scale. *Journal of Family Violence*, 14(4), 399-415.

POPULATION: women, medical providers.

RESPONSE OPTIONS: (1) Daily, (2) Once per week, (3) Once per month, (4) Several times, (5) Only once

SCORING: Sum scores

SURVEY ITEMS: 4-factor, 74 item scale

RELIABILITY INFORMATION: Cronbach's $\alpha = .90$

VALIDITY INFORMATION: The following methods were used to assess validity:

Face validity

- Literature search on subcategories of abuse

Content validity

- Reviewed by domestic violence researchers, public health academics, and domestic violence workers

TERMS OF USE:

Individuals may use this information for research or educational purposes only and may not use this information for commercial purposes. When using this instrument, please cite:

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When presenting results using any survey information you obtained from the SABI, please acknowledge the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Center for AIDS Research (CFAR), an NIH funded program P30 AI50410.



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- Items derived from police and court reports of domestic violence cases, victims' descriptions of abuse, and domestic violence practitioners' reports

Convergent validity

- CAS & Physical abuse scale
- CAS & Conflict Tactics Scale -Verbal Aggression

Criterion-related validity

- CAS & Conflict Tactics Scale

FACTOR ANALYSIS:

Factor analysis yielded 4 factors

Severe combined abuse
Emotional abuse
Physical abuse
Harassment

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