

Chris Evans, PhD

Senior Lecturer Roehampton University

Using change scores wisely: new psychometrics for modern work in clinical psychology and psychotherapy

Traditional psychometrics was cross-sectional: seeking evidence that we could in useful ways compare different people. It came largely out of personality/trait theory and education/ability testing. There are useful tools for us in there but increasingly mental health practitioners really want to measure change within individuals. We'd still like our measures to be useful for comparing people but many practitioners want measurements every week/session. This raises interesting questions about what clients think when repeatedly asked the same questions. This presentation will look both at the psychological and relational processes involved and at the problems with conventional psychometric tools when applied to this sort of frequently repeated data. I will argue that we have to be wise about our measures and measuring, and about our "measures of measures": our psychometric tools. I will present data from a number of mental health datasets with repeated measures illustrating the issues, and, I hope, also some principles and guidelines, and some new ways of "measuring measures" that can help us.

Date: Friday, 15 September 2017

Hour: 13:00

Place: Sala de Graus, Facultat de Psicologia, Campus Mundet





