

# Validity of the Hebrew Version of Profiles of Occupational Engagement in People with Schizophrenia (POES) Assessment Tool

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## Abstract

Schizophrenia is characterized by psychotic episodes and includes emotional, motivational, cognitive and motor symptoms that influence occupational engagement. Occupational engagement associates with health and well-being, and is considered to be a focus of occupational therapy intervention. The Profiles of Occupational Engagement in people with Schizophrenia (POES) provides a systematic description of occupational engagement and occupational balance, based on a time-use diary completed by people with schizophrenia. The POES has been translated into Hebrew, however, psychometric properties have not been established yet. **objectives:** To establish criterion and construct validity for the POES Hebrew version. **Methods:** A cross-sectional comparative study, with 42 participants divided into three groups: (1) people with schizophrenia (N=14), (2) people with personality disorders (N=14) and (3) healthy controls (N=14) matched by age and gender to the first study group. The evaluation procedures included: POES, participation questionnaire, functional capacity and cognitive assessments. **Results:** Occupational engagement level as evaluated by POES was significantly different between participants with and without psychiatric diagnosis ( $-4.58 < Z < -4.57$ ,  $p < 0.001$ ). Among people with schizophrenia, POES score

was associated with cognitive ability ( $r_s=0.566$ ,  $p<0.05$ ), functional capacity ( $r_s=0.78$ ,  $p<0.001$ ) and participation diversity ( $r_s=0.733$ ,  $p<0.01$ ). A further correlation between the first and second measuring of POES was found, while controlling for number of days between the assessments ( $r_{\text{partial}}=0.577$ ,  $p<0.05$ ). **Discussion and Conclusions:** This study provides initial evidence for discriminant, concurrent and convergent validity of the POES Hebrew version. This supports the use of the POES Hebrew version as a part of the evaluation process by occupational therapists with people with schizophrenia and other psychiatric disorders.