

1 Copyright © 2018 Taylor & Francis. Chao, J., Siu, A. M., Leung, O., Lo, A., Chu, M., Lee, W. K., ... & Chien, C. W. (2019). Chinese version of  
2 the recovery self-assessment scale: psychometric evidence from Rasch analysis and reliability estimates. *Journal of Mental Health*, 28(2),  
3 206-212. This is an Accepted Manuscript of an article published by Taylor & Francis in Optimization on 17 Nov 2018, available at: <https://www.tandfonline.com/10.1080/09638237.2018.1521931> (see: <https://authorservices.taylorandfrancis.com/research-impact/sharing-versions-of-journal-articles/>).

## 5 Chinese Version of the Recovery Self-Assessment Scale: Psychometric Evidence from 6 7 Rasch Analysis and Reliability Estimates

### 12 Abstract

15 **Aim.** This study aims to develop a Chinese version of the Recovery Self-Assessment (RSA),  
16 which assesses the recovery orientation of hospital-based mental health services.  
17

19 **Methods.** We conducted forward and backward translations of the RSA. After making  
20 modifications suggested by a team of content experts, the Chinese Recovery Self-Assessment  
21 Service User version (CRSA-R) was ready for testing. We recruited 350 people with mental  
22 illnesses who regularly attend hospital, day, and outpatient mental health services. The  
23 participants completed the CRSA-R, and convergent measures on hope and mental well-being.  
24

26 **Results.** The Rasch analysis provides support for five of the six factors, and suggests that the  
27 “Life Goal” factor could be further split into two factors of “Life Goals for My Recovery” and  
28 “Life Goals Supported by Staff.” We identified three misfit items (items 6, 12, and 17) that could  
29 be considered for removal in the future. Both the internal consistency and test-retest reliability  
30 are between satisfactory and very good within each subscale, with the exception of the Choice  
31 subscale. The seven subscales had low positive correlations with measures of hope and mental  
32 well-being, which supported the convergent validity of CRSA-R.  
33

35 **Conclusion.** The results supported the factor structure, reliability, and convergent validity of the  
36 CRSA-R.  
37

39 **Keywords:** Mental health, Recovery, Recovery Self-assessment, Rasch, Psychometric  
40

## 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 Introduction

Mental health recovery is a journey of healing, which enables a person with a mental illness to live a fuller and more meaningful life in their community, and make choices to reach their full potential (Whitney & Drake, 2010). Mental health services have faced ongoing criticism that they place too much emphasis on the person's sick role instead of paying more attention to the person's illness experience and recovery process (Slade, 2009). In many modern societies, traditional mental health systems focus on symptom management, since the societies have low expectations for the recovery of people with severe mental illnesses (Maassen, Schrevel, Dedding, Broerse, & Regeer, 2017). The recovery model advocates that persons with mental illnesses can progress beyond the impact of mental illness and develop new meaning and purpose in their lives. Over the past two decades, there has been a paradigm shift within mental health services toward recovery-oriented practice, which has been widely adopted around the world in countries such as the USA, Australia, New Zealand, and the UK (Ramon et al., 2007).

The recovery model advocates that persons with severe mental illnesses have self-determination, autonomy, and choice in their own care and recovery; it is imperative for service providers to adopt a consumer-driven approach that encourages the participatory involvement of service users. Service users are one of the key stakeholders in the planning and evaluation of recovery-oriented services, in addition to service providers, service administrators and caregivers (Ostrow & Adams, 2012). Over the years, practitioners and researchers around the world have developed a number of self-completed questionnaires to evaluate the recovery orientation of mental health services and the outcomes of recovery-oriented services. Among the eleven instruments reviewed by Burgess, Pirkis, Coobs, & Rosen (2011), the Recovery Self-Assessment (RSA) (O'Connell et al., 2005) is one of the four instruments that met the criteria for

1  
2  
3 a quality assessment instrument of recovery practice: 1) the instrument measures areas that are  
4 directly relevant to recovery orientation, 2) it is manageable and easy to administer, 3) it has  
5 gone through an appropriate process of development and validation, 4) it includes a consumer  
6 perspective, 5) it is applicable to the local context, and 6) it is acceptable to consumers. In  
7 addition, the RSA is also one of the most widely used instruments globally (Williams et al.,  
8 2012).  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15

16  
17 The present study selected the RSA for conducting ongoing evaluation of recovery-  
18 oriented services in Hong Kong for several reasons. First, the RSA is versatile; it has been  
19 applied in both hospital and community-based services (Salyers et al., 2007), and could assess  
20 both individuals' recovery as well as the recovery-orientation of the service (Burgess et al.,  
21 2011). Second, there is a wealth of evidence supporting the psychometric properties of the RSA  
22 worldwide. Several countries, such as the USA (Campbell-Orde et al., 2005) and Australia  
23 (Burgess et al., 2011), recommended the use of the RSA for regulatory evaluation of recovery  
24 services. Third, the RSA Revised version (RSA-R) has four parallel versions – person in  
25 recovery, family/significant other/advocate, provider, and administrator versions – which enables  
26 a more comprehensive evaluation of recovery-oriented services by various stakeholders  
27 (Campbell-Orde et al., 2005; O'Connell et al., 2007). Lastly, the RSA has been translated and  
28 applied in many non-English speaking countries and cultural contexts without the need for major  
29 modifications (Chiba et al., 2010; Rosenberg et al., 2015; Ye, Pan, Wong, & Bola, 2013).  
30  
31  
32  
33  
34  
35  
36  
37  
38  
39  
40  
41  
42  
43  
44  
45  
46  
47  
48  
49  
50  
51  
52  
53  
54  
55  
56  
57  
58  
59  
60

In fact, two studies have developed a Chinese version of the RSA-R for use in some community mental health settings in Hong Kong. Some initial psychometric properties were collected (Ye et al., 2013), and cross-validation of the RSA-R with other mental health recovery measures and convergent measures (like hope) were conducted. However, it was necessary to

1  
2  
3 address several gaps in clinical application and validation research of the Chinese RSA-R. First,  
4  
5 in the studies by Ye et al. (2013) and Bola, Chan, Chen, & Ng, 2016), one translated the RSA  
6  
7 while the other translated the RSA-R respectively. Both studies attempted to validate the RSA or  
8  
9 RSA-R as one of the instruments in a battery of recovery measures for use in community mental  
10  
11 health settings. However, both studies did not clearly report on the translation process or the  
12  
13 review of content validity and cultural relevance of the RSA or RSA-R for use with Chinese  
14  
15 populations. This study aims to conduct forward and backward translation, as well as a detailed  
16  
17 expert panel review of quality of translation, content validity, and cultural relevance before pilot  
18  
19 test of the RSA-R person-in-recovery version.  
20  
21  
22

23  
24 Second, there are uncertainties in the factor structure of the RSA in both the Chinese and  
25  
26 English versions, despite many studies that have tried to explore and confirm the factor structure.  
27  
28 For the English version, two key studies came up with similar groupings of items under the  
29  
30 following five factors: 1) goal/success orientation and hope, 2) reliance on others, 3) personal  
31  
32 confidence, 4) no domination by symptoms, and 5) willingness to ask for help (Corrigan et al.,  
33  
34 2004; McNaught et al., 2007). A study of the Japanese version of the RSA replicated this five-  
35  
36 factor structure (Chiba et al., 2010); however, this factor structure is quite different from the  
37  
38 original theoretical design of the instrument (O'Connell et al., 2005). Furthermore, the study on  
39  
40 the translated Chinese version by Ye et al. (2013) did not find a stable factor structure, and used  
41  
42 the RSA total score for further analyses. In a recent attempt, Barbic et al. (2015) developed a 12-  
43  
44 item RSA brief version using the Rasch measurement model. While there is support for the  
45  
46 unidimensionality and reliability of this brief version, the authors commented that there is a need  
47  
48 to re-visit the categorization of items under the original theory, as well as the selection of items  
49  
50 used to form the brief version. In summary, there was a strong need to re-examine the factor  
51  
52  
53  
54  
55  
56  
57  
58  
59

1  
2  
3 structure of the RSA. The current study uses Rasch analysis to evaluate the construct validity of  
4 the CRSA-R on the basis that it could examine whether it is appropriate to treat the CRSA-R as a  
5 unidimensional scale, and evaluate how items contribute to diversity of opinion among  
6  
7 respondents.

8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13 Third, there is a need to examine the convergent validity and test-reliability of the  
14 Chinese version of the RSA (Williams et al., 2012). Two previous RSA studies on the Chinese  
15 population provided some initial estimates on the internal consistency and reliability of the total  
16 score, and its correlations with quality of life and several recovery measures (Bola et al., 2016;  
17  
18 Ye et al., 2013). The present study will also provide estimates of internal consistency and test-  
19 retest reliability of the scale and subscales, as well as providing evidence on its validity with  
20 convergent measures of mental well-being and hope. With the additional psychometric  
21 information from this study, clinicians and researchers would have a better understanding of how  
22 ready the Chinese version of RSA is for further application in clinical practice and research.

## 33 34 35 36 Method

37  
38  
39 This study aims to translate the Service User version of the Recovery Self-Assessment  
40 into Chinese (abbreviated CRSA-R) and evaluate the dimensionality of the translated version  
41 using the Rasch measurement model approach. We also aim to provide estimates of internal  
42 consistency and test-retest reliability, as well as evidence for its convergent validity.

## 43 44 45 46 Participants

47  
48  
49 We selectively recruited a sample of persons with mental illness who are attending  
50 occupational therapy services in six different settings under the Hong Kong Hospital Authority.

All participants met the following inclusion criteria: 1) aged above 18 years, 2) diagnosed with a psychiatric disorder, and 3) regularly attends rehabilitation programs in in-patient, outpatient, or day rehabilitation services. Among the participants ( $N = 350$ ), around half were male ( $n = 168$ , 48%) and the remainder were female (Table 1). Participants had a mean age of 42.63 years ( $SD = .66$ ). Almost half (49.1%) of the participants had a high school education, while 15.8% had a tertiary education. The key diagnoses of the participants were schizophrenia, schizotypal and delusional disorder (65.6%), and mood disorders (25.8%). In-patients (44%) and day-patients (40%) made up the main proportions of the sample, while the rest were outpatients (16%). The mean duration of living with psychiatric illness was 13.3 years ( $SD = .58$ ), with a range of less than 1 year to a maximum of 45 years.

## Instruments

**Chinese Recovery Self-Assessment, Service User version (CRSA-R).** After obtaining permission from the original author of RSA, we translated the Recovery Self-Assessment (RSA-R) Personal in Recovery version into Chinese (the CRSA-R). A team of five mental health experts reviewed the first draft of the translated instrument. After some revisions, the second draft was reviewed by 25 mental health professionals and a final version was drafted. We hired a language expert to conduct a backward translation of the CRSA-R into English. We compared the back translated version (in English) with the original English version, and final improvements were made to the translated Chinese version.

**Adult Hope Scale (AHS).** The AHS is a 12-item self-completed questionnaire designed to measure a person's level of hope (Snyder et al., 1991). The scale has two subscales: 1) the Agency subscale, which measures the person's goal-directed energy in initiating and sustaining actions, and 2) Pathways, which measures the person's belief in generating activities to pursue

1  
2  
3 and reach goals. We anticipated the CRSA-R would have significant positive correlations with  
4 the convergent measure of AHS, as we expected a recovery-oriented environment to cultivate  
5 higher hope in the service users.  
6  
7  
8  
9

10  
11 **Chinese Warwick-Edinburgh Mental Well-being Scale (C-WEMWBS).** This seven-  
12 item instrument was designed to measure the mental well-being of subjects. Both validation  
13 studies of the original English and Chinese versions of the WEMWBS reported a unidimensional  
14 factor structure, as well as excellent reliability and construct validity (Brown, et al., 2009; Bass,  
15 Dawkin, Muncer, Vigurs, & Bostock, 2015; Ng, et al., 2014). We anticipated mental well-being  
16 to be a convergent measure with recovery orientation of mental health services.  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26

## Procedure

27  
28 We obtained ethics approval from the Research Ethics Review Committee of the Hospital  
29 Authority and The Hong Kong Polytechnic University to conduct this project. We briefed  
30 potential participants who fulfilled the selection criteria, covering information on the purpose  
31 and procedures of the study, and how they could participate. We then invited them to join, and  
32 required that those who agreed to participate in the study signed a consent form. The participants  
33 completed a set of questionnaires that included the CRSA-R, AHS, and C-WEMWBS, and  
34 provided some basic background information. Two hundred and ninety six (84.6%) out of 350  
35 participants agreed to complete the CRSA-R for a second time to provide data to evaluate the  
36 test-retest reliability. The mean duration between the first and second completion of the CRSA-R  
37 was 13.8 (SD = 7.7) days.  
38  
39  
40  
41  
42  
43  
44  
45  
46  
47  
48  
49  
50  
51

## Statistical analysis

Rasch analysis was used to evaluate the construct validity of the CRSA-R, specifically for its unidimensionality or the extent to which the CRSA-R items measure a single construct defining recovery orientation. Based on item response theory, Rasch analysis is a probabilistic model that examines a matrix of person-ability versus item-difficulty on a common scale and converts ordinal scores obtained from rating scales into interval-level measures or so-called 'logits' (Bond & Fox, 2007). The unidimensionality of a scale can be assessed by using the residuals derived from Rasch measures that achieve interval-level scaling. Rasch analysis has been recently applied to aid in the validation of the recovery outcome in people with mental illnesses (Barbic, Kidd, Davidson, McKenzie, & O'Connell, 2015; Hancock, Scanlan, Honey, Bundy, & O'Shea, 2015; McGuire, Kean, Bonfils, Presnell, & Salyers, 2014). As the CRSA-R uses a five-point Likert scale (*strongly disagree* to *strongly agree*) across all items, the Rasch Rating Scale Model (Andrich, 1978) was applied and the WINSTEPS software version 3.73 (Linacre, 2011) was used to conduct the analysis.

To examine the unidimensionality, a Rasch-based principal component analysis (PCA) of residuals with item goodness-of-fit analysis was conducted. The unidimensionality of the CRSA-R items is supported if the Rasch identified construct (principal component) account for >50% of the total variance, and if the size of the first contrast (the largest secondary component after the principal component is removed) is less than 2.0 eigenvalue (Raîche, 2005). We would use Rasch-based goodness-of-fit statistics to examine how well the CRSA-R items fit with the model's expectations for hierarchical difficulties. The two types of fit statistics, infit and outfit are reported using mean square (MnSq) and standardized Z values (Zstd). Infit and outfit with MnSq <1.4 in combination with Zstd values of <2.0 are indicators of acceptable model fit (Bond & Fox, 2007; Chien & Bond, 2009). Items with MnSq > 1.4 and Zstd > 2 indicate that the item

1  
2  
3 responses are misfitting, and the item may belong to a different construct. Such misfitting items  
4 were excluded from the CRSA-R in a stepwise manner until all retained items demonstrated  
5 acceptable fit criteria. The model should meet the standard of explaining more than 50% of the  
6 variance, with eigenvalue smaller than 2 in the first contrast of the PCA analysis of residuals.  
7  
8

9  
10 Once the CRSA-R items are confirmed for the unidimensionality, these items were  
11 calibrated along a hierarchical order from low to high recovery orientation based on logits.  
12  
13 Similarly, the participants' levels of recovery orientation were also calibrated hierarchically and  
14 were placed together with the items' difficulty calibrations on the same linear interval-level  
15 measurement continuum. Floor and ceiling effects were examined by investigating the  
16 percentage of participants who achieved the lowest and highest scores in the CRSA-R. A  
17 threshold of 15% was used similarly to a previous study (Hobart & Thompson, 2001). Lastly,  
18 Rasch analysis provides item and person reliability indices for describing the reliability of the  
19 CRSA-R items and participants. (Bond & Fox, 2007). The interpretation of item and person  
20 reliability coefficients is similar to Cronbach's  $\alpha$ , which is  $\geq 0.90$  indicating excellent,  $0.90 > \alpha \geq$   
21 0.80 indicating good, and  $0.80 > \alpha \geq 0.70$  indicating acceptable (Bond & Fox, 2007; Portney &  
22 Watkins, 2009).  
23  
24

## 43 Results

44  
45

### 46 Rasch Analysis and Principal Component Analysis of Residuals of CRSA-R as a whole.

47

48 The results showed that the items as a whole did not fit with the Rasch model's  
49 expectations of hierarchical ordering from "easy" to "difficult." For example, the total variance  
50 explained by the Rasch measure accounts for 41.1% and the first contrast has an Eigenvalue of  
51 3.6, which is more than 2.0 as a sign for multidimensionality. Eight items also exhibited as  
52  
53  
54  
55  
56  
57  
58  
59

1  
2  
3 potentially misfit (Infit and Outfit MnSq > 1.4 or Infit & Outfit Zstd > 2.0). The above evidence  
4 suggested that the C-RSA is not a unidimensional scale, which led to the decision to examine the  
5 specific pattern of factor loading (based on the Rasch principal component analysis of residuals)  
6 under each of the subscales separately.  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12

### 13 **Principal Component Analysis (PCA) of Residuals of CRSA-R subscales.**

  
14

15 Regarding the dimensionality of CRSA-R items under each subscale, the Rasch analysis  
16 supports five out of the six subscales (Table 2). The PCA results for the “Life Goal” subscale  
17 were not quite satisfactory because the total variance explained by the Rasch measure was 43%,  
18 with the first contrast having an Eigenvalue of 2.1, and there were two items (12 and 17)  
19 showing as misfit. After iteratively removing these two misfit items, the PCA of residuals results  
20 remained unsatisfactory. Therefore, we split the remaining nine items into two sub-domains of  
21 the “Life Goal” subscale, based on the factor loading of PCA of residuals. One sub-domain  
22 includes items 3, 7, 8, and 9 (labelled “Life Goals for My Recovery”) and the other includes  
23 items 16, 18, 28, 31, and 32 (labelled “Life Goals Guided by Staff”). The PCA results of  
24 residuals were satisfactory for the two sub-domains and we did not find misfit items in either  
25 sub-domain (see Appendix A). Based on this analysis, we suggest dividing the “Life Goals”  
26 domain into two unidimensional sub-domains.  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31  
32  
33  
34  
35  
36  
37  
38  
39  
40  
41  
42  
43

44 The PCA result of residuals for the “Choice” dimension was acceptable, indicated by a  
45 total explained variance of 39.7% and Eigenvalue of 1.6 for the first contrast. Two items (4 and  
46 6), showed a slight misfit with the Rasch model’s expectations. After we removed item 6, the  
47 PCA results improved (a total explained variance of 43.6%). Thus, we suggest removing item 6  
48 in this subscale, and retaining the other four items in this subscale.  
49  
50  
51  
52  
53  
54  
55  
56  
57  
58  
59  
60

1  
2  
3 The PCA results of residuals for the rest of the four subscales, including the Individually-  
4 Tailored Service (ITS), Diversity of Treatment Options (DTO), Involvement, and Invite  
5 dimension, are satisfactory. The total variance explained by the Rasch measure is substantial  
6 (46.2–69.3%), and the first contrast has the eigenvalue of < 2.0. There are no items showing a  
7 significant misfit with the Rasch model's expectations. We suggest using these four subscales  
8 without further change.  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15

16  
17  
18 In addition, no subscales of the CRSA-R revealed the floor effects (0.3–3.4%). However,  
19  
20 obvious ceiling effects were found in all the subscales of the CRSA-R except for the Choice  
21  
22 (13.4%) and DTO (14.6%) subscales. Specifically, 32.9% of the participants achieved the  
23  
24 maximum scores in the Invite subscale that includes merely two items, and 15.4–19.1% obtained  
25  
26 the maximum scores in the rest of the four subscales including the ITS, Involvement, and two  
27  
28 new Life Goal subscales.  
29  
30  
31  
32

### 33 Reliability

34

35 From the results of Rasch analysis (Table 2), item reliability of the subscales ranged from  
36 0.73 to 0.98 and all the estimates were acceptable to excellent. For person reliability, the  
37 estimates were generally lower than item reliability and ranged from 0.48 to 0.75. We also  
38 estimated the reliability of the CRSA-R using the classical test model (Table 3), and Cronbach's  
39  $\alpha$  is 0.95 for all 30 items. The Cronbach's  $\alpha$  of the seven subscales ranged from 0.61 to 0.90,  
40 which indicated fair to very good internal consistency of the subscales. Test-retest reliability of  
41 the subscales was acceptable to very good, as indicated by ICCs ranging from 0.77 to 0.94.  
42  
43  
44  
45  
46  
47  
48  
49  
50  
51  
52  
53  
54  
55  
56  
57  
58  
59

### Convergent Validity

The seven CRSA-R subscales had positive and significant correlations with the Agency (r ranges from .29 to .42) and Pathway subscale of the Adult Hope Scale (r ranges from .27 to .39) (Table 4). The correlations are mostly of low to moderate strength. The CRSA-R subscales also have significant positive correlations with the SWEMWBS, with r ranging from .19 to .36.

### Relationship between Demographic Profile and CRSA-R scores

The CRSA-R had low but significant correlations with age, education level, and duration of illness. CRSA-R subscales had significant positive correlations with age, with r ranging from .14 to .27. Six of the seven CRSA-R subscales (excepting the "Invite" subscale) also had significant positive correlations with duration of illness, with r ranging from .14 to .20. In general, this suggests that older age and longer duration of illness is associated with higher CRSA-R ratings by the participants. On the other hand, higher education is associated with lower scores in five of the seven CRSA-R ratings, as the correlations between them are negative and significant (r ranging from .14 to .27). We did not find significant differences in the CRSA-R subscale scores among participants attending in-patient, outpatient, and day patient services. The F-value varies from .12 to 2.59, with p-values ranging from .08 to .89.

### Discussion

There are several important observations ensuing from this validation study. First, the results clearly showed that the CRSA-R is not a unidimensional scale, and it would not be meaningful to use the total score of all items to interpret the recovery orientation of the service. This is consistent with the original conceptualization and design of the RSA that recovery is a multidimensional construct (O'Connell, Tondora, Croog, Evans, & Davidson, 2005). Second, the

1  
2  
3 analysis found that three items (6, 12, and 17) have a misfit with the Rasch model. This indicates  
4 that some item responses may be erratic, may belong to different constructs, or are unlikely to  
5 differentiate the responses of participants as good as other items within the same subscale. We  
6  
7 discussed the proposal to remove these items with expert panel members, but most panel  
8 members suggested that the items should be retained as these items represent important aspects  
9 of the subscales they measure. Therefore, we suggest that these items should be used with  
10 caution under the “Life Goals” or “Choice” subscales.  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19

20 Third, the Rasch analysis and principal component analyses of residuals suggested only  
21 one major change to the factor structure. We proposed to divide the “Life Goals” subscale into  
22 two subscales, which we renamed as “Life Goals for My Recovery” and “Life Goals Supported  
23 by Staff.” The “Life Goals for My Recovery” subscale includes four items that are phrased as  
24 “staff members encourage, believe, or are confident that the person could recover (item 3, 7),  
25 could manage one’s symptoms (item 8), and make choices about daily living (item 9).” For the  
26 “Life Goals Supported by Staff” subscale, the items include phrases that indicate “the staff  
27 member helps or encourages me to … (do different things),” like set up life goals (item 16), other  
28 activities (item 18), achieves life goals (item 28). The two other items in this subscale are related  
29 to the resourcefulness of staff members (item 31) and whether they come from a diverse  
30 background (item 32). In sum, we recommend splitting the “Life Goals” subscale into the two  
31 subscales of “Life Goals for My Recovery” and “Life Goals Guided by Staff” in future use, and  
32 the CRSA-R would have a 7 instead of 6 subscales. This contrasts with a previous exploratory  
33 factor analysis of another version of Chinese RSA (Ye et al., 2013), which could not find  
34 sufficient evidence in support for a multi-dimensional factor structure of the RSA.  
35  
36  
37  
38  
39  
40  
41  
42  
43  
44  
45  
46  
47  
48  
49  
50  
51  
52  
53  
54  
55  
56  
57  
58  
59  
60

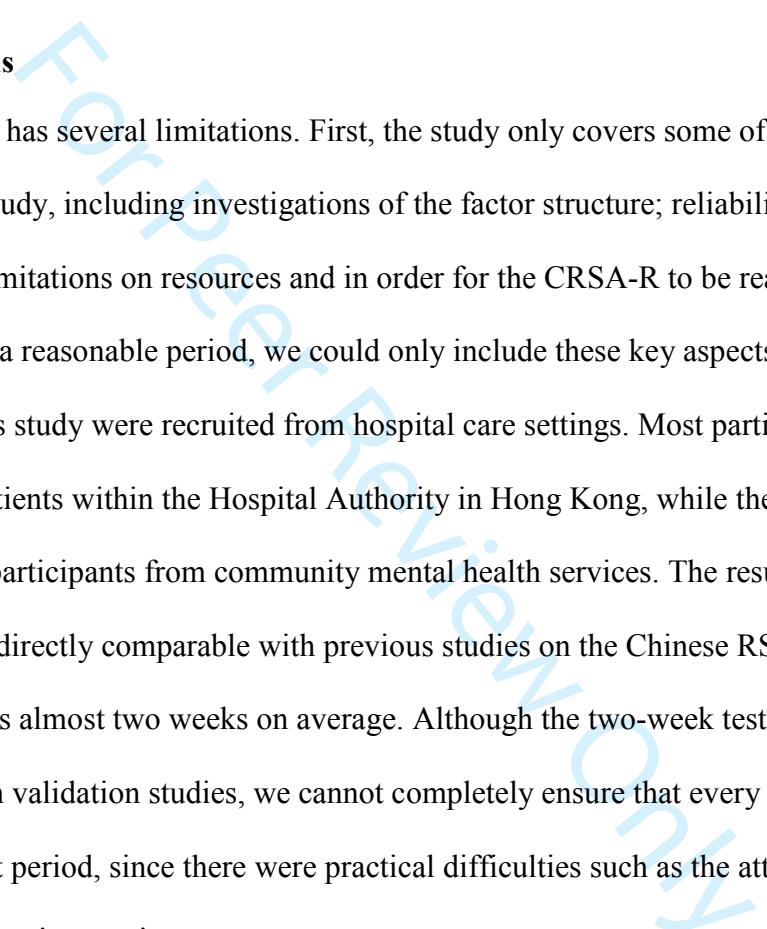
1  
2  
3 Fourth, we found that most of the subscales of the CRSA-R had satisfactory to good  
4 internal consistency and test-retest reliability. The overall Cronbach's  $\alpha$  of all items is 0.95,  
5 which is comparable to estimates from previous local studies on the RSA and RSA-R (Bola et al.,  
6 2016; Ye et al., 2013). Only the four-item "Choice" subscale had internal consistency  
7 (Cronbach's  $\alpha$  = .61) and test-retest reliability (ICC = .77) that were lower than common  
8 standards. Upon examining the "Cronbach's  $\alpha$  if item deleted" measure, there appeared to be no  
9 gain in internal consistency if any one of the four items was removed – item total correlations of  
10 the four items ranged from .30 to .47. In further application of the CRSA-R, we advise noting  
11 that the reliability of the Choice subscale is less satisfactory than other subscales.  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24

25 Fifth, there are several observations from the correlation studies between CRSA-R and  
26 the two convergent measures of hope (AHS) and mental well-being (SWEMWBS). Both  
27 measures had low and significant correlations with CRSA-R. This is consistent with expectations  
28 that a recovery-oriented service environment could promote the hope and mental well-being of  
29 clients. This provides support to the convergent validity of the CRSA-R. In previous local studies  
30 of the Chinese RSA and RSA-R, researchers focus on exploring relationships among several  
31 recovery-oriented measures and quality of life measure. (Bola et al., 2016; Ye et al., 2013). The  
32 current study adds new information on the convergent validity of the CRSA-R.  
33  
34  
35  
36  
37  
38  
39  
40  
41  
42  
43

44 Lastly, there are low but significant correlations between CRSA-R scores in demographic  
45 variables. Age and duration of illness had a positive correlation while education and duration of  
46 illness had a negative correlation. These results suggest that persons who are older and have had  
47 a longer duration of illness would be more positive evaluation of the recovery  
48 orientation of the services. As age and duration of illness had a high correlation, we could not be  
49 sure if age or duration was the key factor contributing to this positive correlation with CRSA-R  
50  
51  
52  
53  
54  
55  
56  
57  
58  
59  
60

1  
2  
3 scores. Persons in recovery with a higher level of education could have higher expectations or be  
4 more critical in the evaluation of the recovery-oriented services. Few studies documented the  
5 association of CRSA-R scores with the demographic background variables, and in future studies  
6 could further examine the potential influence of these variables on the person's view of recovery-  
7 oriented services.  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13

### 14 15 **Study Limitations**



16 This study has several limitations. First, the study only covers some of the key aspects of  
17 a full validation study, including investigations of the factor structure; reliability; and convergent  
18 validity. Due to limitations on resources and in order for the CRSA-R to be ready for program  
19 evaluation within a reasonable period, we could only include these key aspects. Second, all  
20 participants of this study were recruited from hospital care settings. Most participants were in-  
21 patients or day patients within the Hospital Authority in Hong Kong, while the two existing local  
22 studies recruited participants from community mental health services. The results of this current  
23 study may not be directly comparable with previous studies on the Chinese RSA-R. Third, the  
24 test-retest period is almost two weeks on average. Although the two-week test-retest period is  
25 commonly used in validation studies, we cannot completely ensure that every participant had a  
26 uniform test-retest period, since there were practical difficulties such as the attendance of some  
27 participants to outpatient settings.  
28  
29  
30  
31  
32  
33  
34  
35  
36  
37  
38  
39  
40  
41  
42  
43  
44

### 45 46 **Conclusion**



47 This study has provided support to the factor structure, reliability, and convergent validity of the  
48 CRSA-R. The Rasch analysis suggests that the CRSA-R includes seven unidimensional  
49 subscales, and we identified three misfit items that could be removed from the scale. The internal  
50  
51  
52  
53  
54  
55  
56  
57  
58  
59  
60

1  
2  
3 consistency and test-retest reliability are satisfactory to very good for most subscales, except that  
4  
5 the four-item “Choice” subscale has relatively low internal consistency and reliability. As  
6  
7 expected, the CRSA-R scores have significant positive correlations with convergent measures of  
8  
9 hope and mental well-being. Only minor revisions would be needed before the CRSA-R could be  
10  
11 adopted in the evaluation of recovery-oriented mental health services.  
12  
13

14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31  
32  
33  
34  
35  
36  
37  
38  
39  
40  
41  
42  
43  
44  
45  
46  
47  
48  
49  
50  
51  
52  
53  
54  
55  
56  
57  
58  
59  
60

For Peer Review Only

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7 **References**  
8  
9

10 Andrich, D. (1978). Application of a psychometric rating model to ordered categories which are  
11 scored with successive integers. *Applied Psychological Measurement*, 2(4), 581-594.  
12  
13 Barbic, S. P., Kidd, S. A., Davidson, L., McKenzie, K., & O'Connell, M. J. (2015). Validation of  
14 the Brief Version of the Recovery Self-Assessment (RSA-B) Using Rasch Measurement  
15 Theory. *Psychiatric Rehabilitation Journal*, 38(4), 349.  
16  
17 Bass, M., Dawkin, M., Muncer, S., Vigurs, S., & Bostock, J. (2016). Validation of Warwick-  
18 Edinburgh Mental Well-being Scale (WEMWBS) in a population of people using  
19 Secondary Care Mental Health Services. *Journal of Mental Health*, 25(4), 323-329.  
20  
21 Bola, J., Chan, T. H. C., Chen, E. H., & Ng, R. (2016). Cross-validating Chinese Language  
22 Mental Health Recovery Measures in Hong Kong. *Research on Social Work  
23 Practice*, 26(6), 630-640.  
24  
25 Bond, T. G., & Fox, C. M. (2007). *Applying the Rasch model: Fundamental measurement in the  
26 human sciences* (2nd ed.). Mahwah, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates.  
27  
28 Burgess, P., Pirkis, J., Coobs, T., & Rosen, A. (2011). Assessing the Value of Existing Recovery  
29 Measures for Routine Use in Australian Mental Health Services. *Australian and New  
30 Zealand Journal of Psychiatry, Early Online*, 1-14.  
31  
32 Campbell-Orde, T., Chamberlin, J., Carpenter, J., & Leff, H. S. (2005). Measuring the Promise:  
33 A Compendium of Recovery Measures, Volume II, The Evaluation Center @ HSRI.  
34  
35 Chiba, R., Miyamoto, Y., & Kawakami, N. (2010). Reliability and Validity of the Japanese  
36 Version of the Recovery Assessment Scale (RAS) for People with Chronic Mental Illness:  
37 Scale Development. *International Journal of Nursing Studies*, 47(3), 314-322.  
38  
39 Chien, C. W., & Bond, T. G. (2009). Measurement properties of fine motor scale of Peabody  
40 developmental motor scales-second edition: A Rasch analysis. *American Journal of  
41 Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation*, 88(5), 376-386.  
42  
43 Corrigan, P. W., Salzer, M., Ralph, R. O., Sangster, Y., & Keck, L. (2004). Examining the Factor  
44 Structure of the Recovery Assessment Scale. *Schizophrenia Bulletin*, 30(4), 1035-1041.  
45  
46  
47  
48  
49  
50  
51  
52  
53  
54  
55  
56  
57  
58  
59  
60

1  
2  
3 Hancock, N., Scanlan, J. N., Honey, A., Bundy, A. C., & O'Shea, K. (2015). Recovery  
4 Assessment Scale - Domains and Stages (RAS-DS): Its feasibility and outcome  
5 measurement capacity. *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Psychiatry*, 49(7), 624-633.  
6  
7 Hobart, J. C., & Thompson, A. J. (2001). The five item Barthel index. *Journal of Neurology*  
8 *Neurosurgery and Psychiatry*, 71(2), 225-230.  
9  
10 Hogan, M. F. (2003). *Achieving the Promise: Transforming Mental Health Care in America*,  
11 *Executive Summary. The President's New Freedom Commission on Mental Health*.  
12 Maryland: US Department of Health and Human Services.  
13  
14 Linacre, J. M. (2011). *User's guide to WINSTEPS*. Chicago, IL: MESA Press.  
15  
16 Maassen, E. F., Schrevel, S. J., Dedding, C. W., Broerse, J. E., & Regeer, B. J. (2017).  
17 Comparing patients' perspectives of "good care" in Dutch outpatient psychiatric services  
18 with academic perspectives of patient-centred care. *Journal of Mental Health*, 26(1), 84-94.  
19  
20 McGuire, A. B., Kean, J., Bonfils, K., Presnell, J., & Salyers, M. P. (2014). Rasch analysis of the  
21 illness management and recovery scale-clinician version. *Journal of Evaluation in Clinical  
22 Practice*, 20(4), 383-389.  
23  
24 McNaught, M., Caputi, P., Oades, L. G., & Deane, F. P. (2007). Testing the Validity of the  
25 Recovery Assessment Scale Using an Australian Sample. *Australian and New Zealand  
26 Journal of Psychiatry*, 41(5), 450-457.  
27  
28 Ng, S. S., Lo, A. W., Leung, T. K., Chan, F. S., Wong, A. T., Lam, R. W., & Tsang, D. K.  
29 (2014). Translation and Validation of the Chinese Version of the Short Warwick-  
30 Edinburgh Mental Well-being Scale for Patients with Mental Illness in Hong Kong. *East  
31 Asian Archives of Psychiatry*, 24(1), 3.  
32  
33 O'Connell, M., Tondora, J., Croog, G., Evans, A., & Davidson, L. (2005). From Rhetoric to  
34 Routine: Assessing Perceptions of Recovery-oriented Practices in a State Mental Health  
35 and Addiction System. *Psychiatric rehabilitation journal*, 28(4), 378.  
36  
37 Ostrow, L., & Adams, N. (2012). Recovery in the USA: From Politics to Peer Support.  
38 *International Review of Psychiatry*, 24(1), 70-78.  
39  
40 Portney, L. G., & Watkins, M. P. (2009). *Foundations of clinical research: Application to  
41 practice* (3rd ed.). Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson/Prentice Hall.  
42  
43 Raîche, G. (2005). Critical eigenvalue sizes in standardized residual principal components  
44 analysis (PCA). *Rasch Measurement Transactions*, 22(1), 1162.  
45  
46  
47  
48  
49  
50  
51  
52  
53  
54  
55  
56  
57  
58  
59  
60

1

2

3 Ramon, S., Healy, B., & Renouf, N. (2007). Recovery from Mental Illness as an Emergent  
4 Concept and Practice in Australia and the UK. *International Journal of Social  
5 Psychiatry*, 53(2), 108-122.

6

7 Rosenberg, D., Svedberg, P., & Schön, U. K. (2015). Establishing a Recovery Orientation in  
8 Mental Health Services: Evaluating the Recovery Self-Assessment (RSA) in a Swedish  
9 Context. *Psychiatric Rehabilitation Journal*, 38(4), 328.

10

11 Salyers, M. P., Tsai, J., & Stultz, T. A. (2007). Measuring Recovery Orientation in a Hospital  
12 Setting. *Psychiatric Rehabilitation Journal*, 31, 131-137.

13

14 Slade, M. (2009). *Personal Recovery and Mental Illness: A Guide for Mental Health  
15 Professionals*. Cambridge University Press.

16

17 Snyder, C. R., Harris, C., Anderson, J. R., Holleran, S. A., Irving, L. M., Sigmon, S. T.,  
18 Yoshinob, U. L., Gibb, J., Langelle, C., & Harney, P. (1991). The Will and the Ways:  
19 Development and Validation of an Individual-differences Measure of Hope. *Journal of  
20 Personality and Social Psychology*, 60(4), 570.

21

22 Stewart-Brown, S., Tennant, A., Tennant, R., Platt, S., Parkinson, J., & Weich, S. (2009).  
23 Internal Construct Validity of the Warwick-Edinburgh Mental Well-being Scale  
24 (WEMWBS): A Rasch Analysis Using Data from the Scottish Health Education  
25 Population Survey. *Health and Quality of Life Outcomes*, 7(1), 15.

26

27 Whitley, R., & Drake, R. E. (2010). Recovery: A Dimensional Approach. *Psychiatric  
28 Services*, 61(12), 1248-1250.

29

30 Williams, J., Leamy, M., Bird, V., Harding, C., Larsen, J., Le Boutillier, Oades, L., & Slade, M.  
31 (2012). Measures of the Recovery Orientation of Mental Health Services: Systematic  
32 Review. *Social Psychiatry and Psychiatric Epidemiology*, 47(11), 1827-1835.

33

34 Ye, S., Pan, J. Y., Wong, D. F. K., & Bola, J. R. (2013). Cross-validation of Mental Health  
35 Recovery Measures in a Hong Kong Chinese Sample. *Research on Social Work  
36 Practice*, 23(3), 311-325.

37

38

39

40

41

42

43

44

45

46

47

48

49

50

51

52

53

54

55

56

57

58

59

60

**Table 1. Characteristics of Study Participants (N = 350)**

Variables	Categories	n (%)
Sex	Male	168 (48.0%)
	Female	182 (52.0%)
Educational Level	No formal education	1 (0.3%)
	Primary P 1-6	42 (12.1%)
	Secondary Form 1-3	79 (22.7%)
	Secondary Form 4-7	171 (49.1%)
Diagnosis	Tertiary education	55 (15.8%)
	Organic, including symptomatic, mental disorders (F00-F09)	2 (0.6%)
Diagnosis	Mental and behavioral disorders due to psychoactive substance use (F10-F19)	15 (4.3%)
	Schizophrenia, schizotypal and delusional disorders (F20-F29)	229 (65.6%)
	Mood or affective disorders (F30-F39)	90 (25.8%)
	Neurotic, stress-related, and somatoform disorder (F40-F48)	6 (1.7%)
	Disorders of adult personality and behavior (F60-F69)	3 (0.9%)
Service attended	Mental retardation (F70-F79)	4 (1.1%)
	In-patient	154 (44.0%)

Variables	Categories	n (%)
	Out-patient	56 (16.0%)
	Day-patient	140 (40.0%)

For Peer Review Only

**Table 2. Summary of Results of Rasch Analysis and Principal Component Analysis**

Subscales	Items under each subscale	Items suggested for removal	Total % of variance explained (eigenvalue for 1 <sup>st</sup> contrast)	Person (Item) Reliability
Life Goals for My Recovery	3, 7, 8, 9	12, 17	56.6% (1.5)	0.75 (0.73)
Life Goals Guided by Staff	16, 18, 28, 31, 32		52.0% (1.7)	0.66 (0.89)
Choice	4, 5, 10, 27	6	43.6% (1.6)	0.48 (0.98)
Individually-Tailored Service	11, 13, 19, 30	---	51.3% (1.6)	0.68 (0.90)
Diversity of Treatment Option	14, 15, 20, 21, 26	---	46.2% (1.6)	0.65 (0.94)
Involvement	22, 23, 24, 25, 27, 29	---	53.3% (1.5)	0.74 (0.93)
Invite	1, 2	---	69.3% (0)	0.72 (0.86)

**Table 3. Reliability Estimates of the CRSA-R**

RSA-R subscales	Number of items	Internal Consistency (Cronbach's $\alpha$ )	Test-retest Reliability (ICC)
Life Goals for My Recovery	4	.82	.77
Life Goals Guided by Staff	5	.87	.91
Choice	4	.61	.77
Individually-Tailored Service	4	.82	.87
Diversity of Treatment Option	5	.81	.88
Involvement	6	.90	.94
Invite	2	.78	.80
All items	30	.95	.98

1  
2  
3 **Table 4. Correlations between CRSA-R and convergent measures or demographic**  
4 **variables**  
5

10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60	Life Goals subscales							
	Convergent measures and demographic variables	Life Goal for My Recovery	Life Goals Guided by Staff	Choice	Diversity			
					Individually -Tailored Service	of Treatment Option	Involvement	Invite
Adult Hope Scale (AHS)								
Agency Subscale		.43**	.35**	.32**	.32**	.34**	.29**	.34**
Pathway Subscale		.39**	.36**	.31**	.31**	.35**	.28**	.27**
SWEMWBS		.36**	.24**	.22**	.25**	.26**	.19**	.25**
Age		.27**	.22**	.20**	.22**	.21**	.14*	.26**
Education Level		-.20**	-.22**	-.15*	-.19**	-.19**	-.11	-.11
Duration of Illness		.20**	.17*	.15*	.19**	.17**	.14*	.08