

## ABSTRACT

### CAN THE K6 ASSESS MENTAL DISORDERS IN THE LATINO POPULATION IN A COMPARABLE FORM AS THE CULTURALLY VALIDATED PHQ 8? A PSYCHOMETRIC ANALYSIS USING THE BEHAVIORAL RISK FACTOR SURVEILLANCE SURVEY

The objective of this study was to determine the K6 utility among the Latino Community. The theoretical framework that prompted this analysis was Kleinman's cultural explanatory model. Analyses were guided by psychometric principles, specifically content, convergent, and construct validity. Data for the analysis came from the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey, a nationally representative, cross-sectional telephone survey. The sample population consisted of adults 18 years and older who participated in either the 2006 or 2007 BRFSS and completed the PHQ 8 and K6, respectively. Stratifications were made for Latinos diagnosed with depression as well Latinos diagnosed with SPD. Statistical tests included reliability as measured by Cronbach's alpha, cross tabulations with subsequent chi-square tests, logistic regressions, and correlation analysis measured by Pearson's r correlation coefficient. Results from the study indicated high internal reliability, similar significant correlates, and a significant relationship between the K6 and the PHQ 8.

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