Psychometric Properties of the Korean Version of the Compassionate Love Scale among Clinical Nurses

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The purpose of this study was to examine the Korean version of Compassionate Love for Strangers and Humanity Scale (CLS) among clinical nurses in South Korea. Methodology & Theoretical Orientation: The study was accomplished by administering the original scale to clinical nurses (n=497) working at three tertiary hospitals in South Korea. Data were entered into SPSS version 18.0 for analysis. The exploratory factor analysis (EFA) was then conducted to investigate construct validity by using principal axis factoring with a promax rotation to extract factors from the 21 items. The criteria for selection included factor loadings with an absolute value > .40 and acceptable scree test results. For convergent validity, we analyzed Pearson's correlations between CLS scores and scores on the Compassion Competence Scale (CCS), and Korean Empathy Quotient-Short form (EQ-Short-K). The reliability was calculated using Cronbach’s α. Findings: The Compassionate Love for Strangers and Humanity Scale were categorized into 3 factors explaining 68.6% of the total variance: factor 1 (10 items), factor 2 (6 items), and factor 3 (5 items). The cumulative variance explained by these three factors was 68.6%. The KMO value (.97) was acceptable and Bartlett's test of sphericity showed that the p value was significant (χ² = 10798.126, p < .001), indicating that the correlations were fit for factor analysis. To verify the convergent validity of the Compassionate Love Scale (CLS), correlational analysis between the CLS and the CCS, and EQ-Short-K was conducted, and the results were statistically significant, verifying the convergent validity of the scale. The scale's Cronbach’s α coefficient was .96. The Korean version of the CLS seems to be reliable and valid. In conclusion, the reliability and validity of the self-reporting CLS for nurses have been verified through the validation process of the scale. Consequently, it is expected to be used as a screening tool for promptly and simply identifying compassionate love among nurses in various nursing practices and research studies.

Biography

Youngjin Lee is an assistant professor of nursing administration & nursing informatics at Korea National University of Transportation, Department of Nursing. She teaches in both graduate program and undergraduate programs. She teaches courses in nursing management, Nursing informatics & Lab, and Research methods. During the past few years she has interested about evaluation related on Nursing staffing, Compassion, Leadership, and Organizational behavior within a variety of setting. She is currently interested in compassion competence in nursing.

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