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A Confirmatory Factor Structure of Beck Anxiety Inventory in Secondary School Students Among Kuwaitis and Non-kuwaitis

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Introduction: The Beck Anxiety Inventory (BAI) has consistently been regarded as a strong tool for measuring cognitive and somatic aspects of self-reported anxiety symptomatology in both clinical and non-clinical populations. There is no study until this date that examines the factor structure of BAI within Kuwaiti and non-Kuwaiti from high school students.

Objectives: The current study investigated the original four-factor structure of the (BAI) in non-clinical sample of young adults.

Methods: the sample consisted of 600 males and female students from secondary school of which 300 are Kuwaitis, and 300 non-Kuwaitis. The Arabic version of BAI was administered to participants. Explanatory and conformity factor analysis of BAI were used in this study.

Results: The results revealed three structures of BAI in the two samples of Kuwaiti and non-Kuwaiti students. The first factor: Neurophysiological symptoms and symptoms of Subjective, and the second factor comprised symptoms of Panic and Subjective, while the third factor included panic and Autonomic symptoms. In addition, the results revealed no significant gender differences in the factor structure of BAI in the two samples of Kuwaiti and non-Kuwaiti students.

Conclusion: The results of both confirmatory and exploratory factor analysis indicated that the original four-factor structures of the Beck Anxiety Inventory do not provide the best fit for either the Kuwaiti or non-Kuwaiti sample. Three-factor model provided the best fit for the two samples. Implications and suggestions for future research are discussed.