## The French Version of the DABS: validity and reliability preliminary analyses

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## Abstract (293 words)

**Background.** Adaptive Behavior (AB) is an essential component of everyday functioning and limitations in conceptual, social, and/or practical skills are one of the diagnostic criteria for intellectual disability (ID). During the ID diagnostic process and despite the importance of this feature, standardized assessments of AB appear to be used less systematically than assessments of intellectual functioning. This may be explained by the absence of instruments specifically developed for diagnostic purposes, particularly in the French-speaking countries of Europe. The aim of this study is to test the validity and reliability of the transcultural adaptation of the Diagnostic Adaptive Behavior Scale (DABS) in French.

**Method.** Preliminary analyses were conducted to evaluate the concurrent validity, interrespondent reliability, and test-retest reliability of the DABS-F. These analyses were performed on data from 20 participants (8 females, 12 males) aged 6 to 21 with mild to moderate ID, including 6 participants with associated autism spectrum disorders. The data were collected from parents or professionals supervising them, using both the DABS-F and the French validation of the Vineland Adaptive Behavior Scales, 2nd edition (VABS-II).

**Findings.** Results show positive and significant correlations between DABS-F and VABS-II scores, suggesting good levels of concurrent validity. Such results were also found between DABS-F scores of different respondents providing responses regarding the same assessed

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person (interrespondent reliability) and between DABS-F scores obtained by administration of the same test in two measuring times (test-retest reliability), indicating a satisfactory degree of reliability between respondents and across test-retest sessions.

**Conclusions.** Results of this study, comparable to those obtained by the authors of the original version of the DABS, provide preliminary evidence of good levels of validity and reliability for the DABS-F. This adapted version will be subsequently standardized using a large sample of French-speaking participants with typical development.