

Which is the best scoring method for a test of social understanding? A comparison of target, expert and consensus scoring

The video based test of social understanding (VSU) was developed to measure social understanding based on the test principle of the Magdeburg Test of Social Intelligence (MTSI; Süß, Seidel, & Weis, 2008). The VSU includes two video-based scenarios showing two target persons in their daily life during flight training. The test takers' task is to answer questions about cognitions, emotions, relationships and personality either by putting him-/herself in the position of the target person or by making an own evaluation of the target. Three different scoring methods are applied: The target scoring based on the self-evaluation of the two flight students, the expert scoring including the answers of 15 experts representing 3 different occupational groups and the group consensus scoring based on the sample of test takers. This study examines if the scoring procedure affects the psychometric properties and the construct validity of the VSU. The three occupational groups of experts are compared. Further, it is investigated whether target, expert and consensus scoring show adequate psychometric properties. Finally, we investigate how the scores built by different scoring methods affect the relationship with social understanding, academic intelligence and personality. A sample of 529 applicants for a pilot training completed the VSU, academic intelligence tasks and a personality measure in a real application situation. Examples of the VSU and implications of the results will be presented.