

The Development of the Life Participation Approach to Aphasia Perception Scale

Fatimah Hani Hassan, M. A.^{1,2} and Brooke Hallowell, Ph.D.³

(1) Ohio University (2) Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (3) Springfield College



OHIO UNIVERSITY



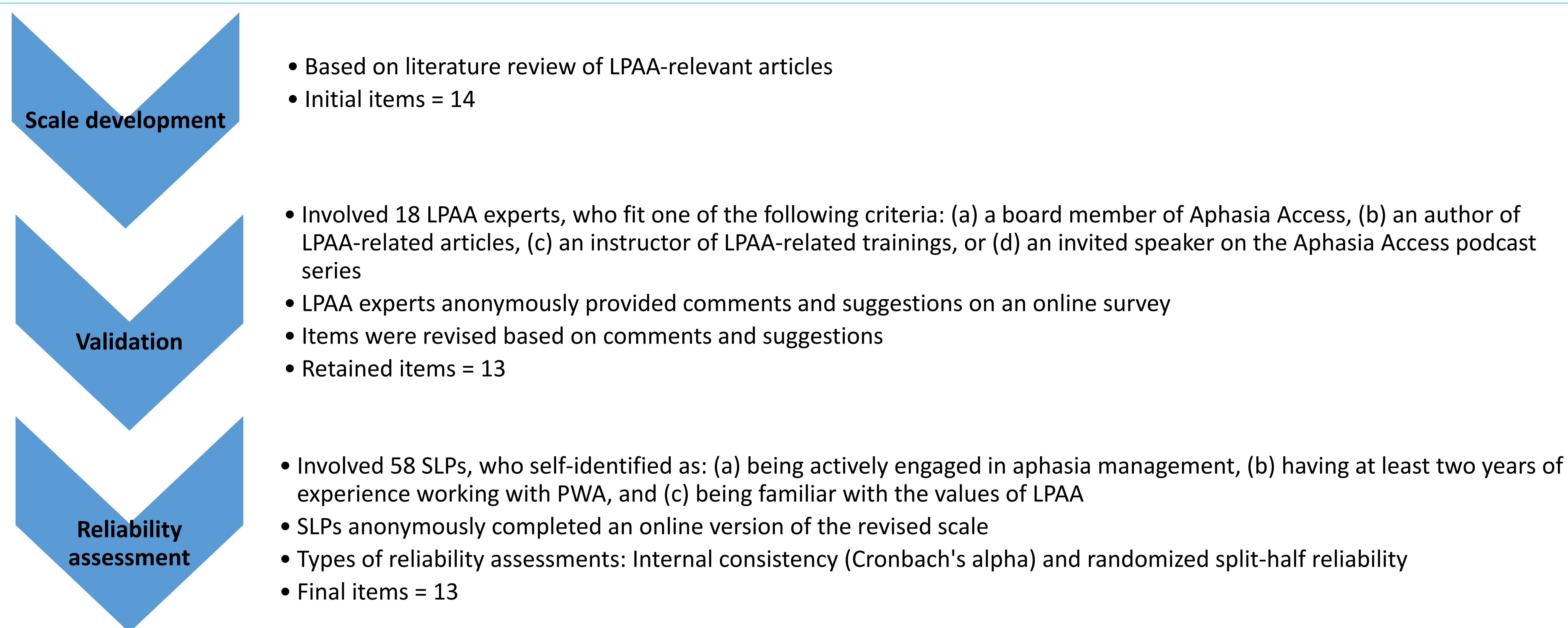
Introduction

- The Life Participation Approach to Aphasia (LPAA) highlights the need to address social engagement and participation of people with aphasia (PWA) and their caregivers in activities that matter to them (Chapey et al., 2008).
- Training on the values and applicability of the LPAA in clinical and non-clinical contexts may encourage speech-language pathologists (SLPs) to apply the LPAA in their own practice of supporting PWA.

Objective

To test the validity and reliability of the LPAA Perception Scale, which was developed to index the perception of SLPs about the LPAA.

Methods



Results

Scale Validation

- The following item was deleted because of disagreements among LPAA experts regarding the appropriateness of the item to be included in the scale:

"According to the LPAA, PWA who have been discharged may return for SLP services in the future to meet their evolving communication needs."

- Examples of the experts' comments related to the deleted item:

"... It [returning for SLP services after being discharged] is not always supported by funding and is limited by healthcare system constraints."

"I don't think the LPAA really extends to this kind of policy statement... [even though] LPAA supports the notion that communication needs evolve over time."

Scale Reliability

Type of reliability assessment	Value
Internal consistency (α)	0.72
Randomized split-half reliability (r_{SB})	0.79

- No single-item removal improves reliability values.

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Discussion

- Validation of the scale was limited to content validity.
 - The experts' feedback was qualitative in nature.
 - There were no comparable tools to allow testing of concurrent validity.
- Reliability of the scale was acceptable.

Conclusions

- The LPAA Perception Scale may be used to evaluate the knowledge of SLPs regarding the tenets and application of LPAA.
- It will be important to test intra-rater reliability with people unfamiliar with the LPAA.

References

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