

## Abstract

The present study examined the construct validity and prevalence of dependent personality disorder (DPD) among Chinese psychiatric patients with emotional disorders. Participants, 806 psychiatric patients, completed the Chinese Personality Disorder Inventory (CPDI) and the Chinese Personality Assessment Inventory-2 (CPAI-2) under the guidance of their psychiatrists. Results indicated that the DSM-IV-TR DPD criteria set had good internal consistency (with  $\alpha = .71$ , and item-total correlations ranged from .26 to .47). Factor analysis of the DPD diagnostic criteria revealed a 1-factor solution (extracted 33.81% of the total variance), suggesting a unidimensional construct. Using a rigorous simulated diagnostic procedure, 7.8% (7.0% for female and 8.8% for male) of the patients were found to meet the diagnosis of DPD. Compared with non-DPD patients, DPD patients reported significantly more problems in self-perception, interpersonal relationship and emotional functioning as assessed by the CPAI-2. Female DPD patients were found to score significantly higher on optimism while male DPD patients scored higher on internal locus of control and thrift dimensions. The possible influence of Chinese culture on the behavior expression of DPD among Chinese psychiatric sample were discussed.