

**PSYCHOLOGICAL TESTS AND ASSESSMENT ONLINE RESOURCE
PHASE I**

Psychological tests—whereby specific replicable procedures are applied to quantify behavior—are commonly used for the measurement of human behavior by numerous groups, such as in education, business and industry, legal system, hospitals and clinics, and research labs. At least 20,000 tests have been developed since the inception of psychology as a science and over 4,000 are commercially published currently. However, there is no single resource to aid the many who need to select a test for a defined purpose, obtain that test to use, or gain knowledge about test development and evaluation. The best test therefore may not necessarily be used, to the detriment of the individuals being tested and society as a whole. Consequently, the goal of this project is to develop an internet-based resource to facilitate *selection* of, *access* to, and *education* about psychological tests, named the *Psychological Test and Assessment Resource (PsyTestAR)*. The development focus was on tests for children and adolescents, which number several thousands.

By the end of Phase II, three integrated components constituted *PsyTestAR*, jointly provided a wide range of essential online resources on tests and assessment: (1) The *Psychological Test Selection and Access Resource* enabled the user to enter search parameters representing an existing assessment need. The search interface examined the test information data base and returns a list of tests apparently meeting that need. Selecting a test in this list presented detailed information from the data base on that test. The user gained access to all tests appropriate to his/her qualifications either: (a) immediately in downloadable MS Word documents held on the *PsyTestAR* server containing the test form(s) and related material (e.g., manual) or (b) a web link or e-mail address referral to the company or person who distributes the test when *PsyTestAR* does not have a distribution agreement. (2) The *Test Development and Evaluation Tutorial* provides education on psychological test development, evaluation, and selection in an engaging interactive online format best conducive to learning. (3) The *Test and Assessment Resources Links* provides access to extensive print and internet resources on tests for children and adolescents and psychological assessment in general.

The goal of the proposed Phase I project was to test the feasibility of this product development plan, culminating in the testing of the usability and usefulness of prototype of the three resources. The intended consumers of *PsyTestAR* include test users in all areas (e.g., clinicians, researchers, students, teachers) who need information about and access to psychological tests for children and adolescents or want to be educated about tests and assessment generally.

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