

Measuring problematic mobile phone use with adolescents: The psychometric characteristics of the
Problematic Mobile Phone Use Scale-10

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Problematic mobile phone use (PMPU) may be the biggest non-drug addiction of the 21st century. This requires that sound - and possibly brief - measurement instruments are available, especially for adolescents, who are particularly at-risk of PMPU. One of the most widely used short instruments to assess PMPU is the brief version of the *Mobile Phone Problem Use Scale* (MPPUS-10; Foester et al., 2015). However, its dimensional structure is unclear, and the growth of PMPU among youth requires to deeply test the MPPUS-10 psychometric functioning with adolescents. The goal of the present study was to investigate the psychometric proprieties of the MPPUS-10 in adolescents, by particularly focusing on dimensionality, and analysing reliability and validity. Participants were 686 adolescents (63% males, $M_{age} = 17.08$) attending high school in Italy. By referring to the unidimensional construct of behavioural addictions, through exploratory and confirmatory factor analyses, the unidimensionality of the MPPUS-10 was supported (CFI = .94, RMSEA = .07), and corroborated by a multi-group cross-validation analysis. The internal consistency of the scale was good (Cronbach's $\alpha = .82$; McDonald's $\omega = .82$). As regards validity, the MPPUS-10 total score resulted to be significantly correlated with time spent on the mobile phone ($r = .38$) and risky use of the mobile phone ($r = .28$), and also with Internet addiction ($r = .54$) and Gaming Disorder ($r = .40$) symptoms. Overall, findings provide support for the adequacy of using the MPPUS-10 in adolescents to assess PMPU.