Health Measurement Scales: A Practical Guide to Their Development and Use

Clinicians and those in health sciences are frequently called upon to measure subjective states such as attitudes, feelings, quality of life, educational achievement and aptitude, and learning style in their patients. This fourth edition of Health Measurement Scales enables these groups who often have limited knowledge of statistics, to both develop scales to measure non-tangible health outcomes, and better evaluate and differentiate between existing tools.

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Health Measurement Scales covers how the individual items are developed; various biases that can affect responses (e.g., social desirability, yea-saying, framing); various response options; how to select the best items in the set; how to combine them into a scale; and then how to determine the reliability and validity of the scale. It concludes with a discussion of ethical issues that may be encountered, and guidelines for reporting the results of the scale development process. Appendices include a comprehensive guide to finding existing scales, and a brief introduction to exploratory and confirmatory factor analysis. It synthesizes the theory of scale construction with practical advice, making it the ultimate guide to how to develop and validate measurement scales that are to be used in the health sciences.

Features:
* Assists the reader in how to develop and evaluate a scale, presenting steps in scale construction in a logical order
* Enables readers to both develop scales to measure non-tangible health outcomes, and better evaluate and choose among existing instruments
* Includes extensive discussion of the newer developments in scale development, in addition to more traditional methods
* Material in this book has been developed by the extensive experience of the authors in teaching this subject, developing scales, and on student and reader feedback
* Written in an accessible style, making it suitable for those with no experience of statistics

Rating:

Broad and Specific Subjects:
* Behavioral & Social Sciences
  Psychology - Clinical Psychology
* Clinical Medicine
  Psychiatry
* Public Health
  Epidemiology