

Development and standardization of the "r.a.r.s" (rett assessment rating scale).

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The aim of this study was to develop and standardize a psychometric scale – namely, the R.A.R.S. (Rett Assessment Rating Scale) scale – in order to measure disease severity in female children with Rett's Syndrome. The scale assesses the level of impairment within different domains of development (cognitive, sensory, motor, emotional, behavioural areas).

The following statistical analyses were carried out for the validation of the scale: level of discrimination, reliability, internal consistency and factor analysis. New criteria for the classification of the syndrome severity were suggested based on the total and subscales score.

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