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ABSTRACT

It was intended to evaluate de psychometric properties of Trait Meta-Mood Scale (TMMS24), Portuguese version of Queiroz et al. (2005) in 170 athletes, male gender sample. Statistical analysis was performed through the software Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) version 20 for Windows. We proceeded to the analysis of the reliability of the 24 items of the instrument in order to see if the items were to measure the construct and obtain a high internal consistency (α = 0.890), almost unchanged with the elimination of any item. The inter-item correlation was not as strong, confirming the analysis of alpha. However, the items in each category tend to have a stronger relation/correlation with each other, between categories. We conducted factor analysis, and variability between the variables, so as to reduce them to a particular number of dimensions. Initially we observed a six-dimensional division, but we forced the analysis to only three resulting in a division of the items according to the original scale, Thus, we concluded that the TMMS24 has a high internal consistency, good reliability and validity, offering us a suitable and reliable tool which we can conduct investigations in different areas such as the sports universe.

Keywords: TMMS24, Emotional Intelligene, Psychometric Properties, Soccer Athletes

INTRODUCTION

It is being understood that the competitive nature of sport can trigger a range of emotions, ranging from mild to intense (Botterill & Brown, 2002; Jones, Hanton, & Connaughton, 2007) and which are considered essential for performance, let's against postulated by Lazarus (1991, 2000), by proposing a hierarchical structure of emotions, it is said that a stronger and more important objective can trigger intense emotions. In contrast, the emotional intensity can vary and depend on individual and situational factors, and in this sense, some researchers postulate that athletes need to develop skills to recognize and manage their own emotions (Botterill & Brown, 2002; Gaudreau, Nicholls, & Levy, 2010; Hanin, 2000; Jones, 2003, 2007; Meyer & Fletcher, 2007; Silverio & Srebro, 2008).

The regulation and management of emotions can relate closely with the construct of emotional intelligence (EI) Salovey and Mayer (1990), which refers to the ability to manage emotions and use them to guide new thoughts and actions. In this sense, some studies (Parker, Summerfeldt, Hogan, & Majeski, 2004; Slaski & Cartwright, 2002; Zeidner, Matthews, & Roberts, 2004) demonstrates the efficacy of emotional intelligence in a variety of fields, corroborating some meta-studies analysis (Schutte, Malouff, Thorsteinsson, Bhullar, & Rooke 2007, Van Rooy & Viswesvaran, 2004), who postulated the utility of emotional intelligence in work performance, which is the starting point for some researchers (Meyer & Fletcher, 2007; Meyer & Zizzi, 2007) to develop studies on EI in sport. According to recent studies (Lane, Thelwell, Lowther, & Devonport, 2009; Thelwell, Lane, Weston, & Greenlees, 2008), the athlete is fully aware of their own emotions and the regular capacity through the use of psychological skills, it can be guided by the positive belief and the desire to succeed, since EI, individuals tend to face more successfully the perception, assessment and management of their emotions.

Therefore, the study and development of El can be an important element in sport and in athlete's performance (Lane et al, 2009, Meyer & Fletcher, 2007; Meyer & Zizzi, 2007; Thelwell et al., 2008). To Silverio and Srebro (2008), the athlete must train to reach the emotional control, and so reach its maximum capacity, referring even that an athlete does not accede to a high level in any sport without emotional control. Since the theoretical model of Mayer and Salovey (1993) emotional intelligence is known as a genuine intelligence, based on adaptive use of emotions, so that the individual can solve problems and adapt to the environment around him. This hierarchical model includes a set of skills from the most basic psychological processes (perception of emotions accurately) to complex (regulation of emotions and promote emotional and intellectual growth), considering that the most basic skills are needed to access to the most complex.

The model of Mayer and Salovey (1993), coated from greater scientific rigor, since its publication in 1997, when that emotional intelligence has become known as the ability to understand, appreciate and express emotions accurately; the ability to access and generate feelings that facilitate thought; the ability to understand emotion and emotional knowledge; and the ability to regulate emotions and promote emotional and intellectual growth (Mayer & Salovey, 1997). More specifically, according to some authors (Mayer & Salovey, 1997; Salovey, Mayer, Goldman, Turvey, & Palfai, 1995; Salovey, Stroud, Woolery, & Epel, 2002; Fernandez-Berrocal, Extremera, & Ramos, 2004; Queirós, Fernández-Berrocal, Extremera, Carral, & Queiroz, 2005), skills that make up the template: I - perception, judgment and expression of emotions, II - The thrill as a facilitator of thought refers to the emotions that act on the thought and on how to process the information; these emotions will determine and improve thinking because of the direct attention of individuals for important information. Emotional changes will allow the individual to adopt different views and multiple perspectives of their problems; III - The emotional knowledge: ability to understand emotions including the ability for catalog (meaning) and relate them to their meaning. It also emphasizes the ability to understand complex emotions, as well as those that occur simultaneously; IV - The regulation of

emotions: it is a more complex emotional process and includes the ability to be open and available to emotions, both positive and negative, emphasizing the ability to manage emotions, moderating the negative and increase the positive without repressing or exaggerating the information contained.

This model consists in different skills, allowing the development of well-structured programs that enable their easy application, monitoring and evaluation in order to obtain more sense, rigor and consistency (Salovey et al, 1995; Mayer & Salovey, 1997; Mayer, Roberts, & Barsade 2008). According to Salovey et al. (1995), Queiroz et al. (2005) developed the Trait Meta-Mood Scale (TMMS24) Portuguese version. It is a measure of self-reported perceived EI, consisting in-24 items that assesses the relatively stable individual differences in the tendency that people have to deal with their emotional and emotions states, making a clear distinction between them and regulate them through the three dimensions of emotional intelligence perceived in three subscales: I - Attention to emotions, II - Clarity of feelings, III - Repair of the emotional state.

Taking into account the measurement approach of emotional intelligence based on Mayer and Salovey (1993) model, the aim of this study is to assess the psychometric properties of the Portuguese version of Trait Meta- Mood Scale (TMMS - 24) Queiroz et al , (2005), serving as a support tool for future research that we intend to pursue.

2. METHODS

2.1. Participants:

The sample consisted in 170 athletes from football mode, volunteers, whose average age stood at 18.50 years, with a minimum of 13 and a maximum of 33 years. All participants were male. The constituents of the sample belonged to three clubs from central and northern regions of the country designated as clubs A, T and P, and 88.2% of the sample was integrated in the main divisions of the national championship of the respective mode (Club A and P) and 11.8% fell within a competitive level with the name given by the Portuguese Football Federation as 2nd National Division Center (Club T). To level the playing position, 18 subjects (10.6%) occupied the goalkeeper position; 28 subjects (16.5%) were central defense; 26 subjects (15.3%) were side defense; 46 subjects (27.1%) were central midfielder; 30 subjects (17.6%) were high ward and 22 individuals (12.9%) were the spearhead.

2.2. Instruments:

- **2.2.1.** Socio-Demographic Survey and Sports Practice, developed specifically for age, marital status, educational attainment, household, competitive ranking and competitive division. An attempt was also made in the same questionnaire, information on sports careers of athletes such as: years of practice, playing position, number of workouts per week, time spent traveling for training, training duration and training period.
- **2.2.2.** *Trait Meta-Mood Scale (TMMS-24)* Portuguese version (Queiroz et al, 2005) is a 24 items self-report measure of perceived emotional intelligence. They are evaluated through a *Likert* scale of 5 points, ranging from (1) "strongly disagree" to (5) "strongly agree". This measure assesses individual differences, relatively stable in the tendency that people have to deal with their emotional states and emotions in three subscales: I Attention to emotions that characterizes the belief of individuals in their emotions (items 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8); II Clarity of feelings, which refers to how individuals-realize their emotions (items 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16); III Repair of the emotional state that characterizes the belief that the individual has to believe in their ability to stop the negative emotional states and prolong the positive (items 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24). Cronbach's

alpha coefficients for the subscales of the Portuguese version are: ATTENTION emotions = 0.80 (university), 0.88 (seniors); CLARITY feelings = 0.79 (university), 0.83 (seniors); REPAIR emotional state = 0.85 (university), 0.92 (seniors).

2.3. Procedures:

We tested the reliability and factorial validity. To ensure the factorial validity, we used exploratory factor analysis in order to observe the existing patterns of correlations between variables and use those same standards to group your variables factors, checking how the scale items were grouped. Therefore, we used the Kaiser rule that the root or first value should be greater than 1.

Was also used Varimax rotation, a method of orthogonal rotation and intended that for each principal component, there are only a few significant weight and all others are near zero, i.e., the goal is to maximize the variance between the weights of each component principal, hence the name Varimax. The intention was to reduce the original variables; thus, the method aims to minimize the number of variables that have high loads a factor. Although there are oblique rotation methods, the most used by researchers is the orthogonal rotation, as it maintains the perpendicular factors, facilitating the interpretation (Favero et al, 2009; Hair et al 2010; Kahn, 2006; Moreira 2004; Pallant, 2001; Pestana & Gageiro, 2008).

All analyzes reported were carried out using the *Statistical Package for Social Sciences* (SPSS) version 20 for Windows.

3. RESULTS:

Psychometric properties of TMMS24 Assessment Tool:

According to **Table 1**, we can see that the TMMS scale shown a high internal consistency ($\alpha = 0.890$), with isolated dimensions, internal consistency levels slightly lower against the alpha of 24 items, and the size "state Repair Emotional "that has the lowest internal consistency, although higher ($\alpha = 0.818$). However, there is great variability observed in alpha when there is a removal of items.

Cronbach's Alpha TMMS (N items=24)			0,890	
	N Items	Chronbach's Alpha	Cronbach's Alpha if deleted item	
Attention to Emotions	8	0,861	0,872	
Clarity of Feelings	8	0,836	0,859	
Repair of Emotional State	8	0.818	0.863	

Table 1: Cronbach's alpha of TMMS Scale 24

In terms of inter-item correlation, we observe a generally weak correlations between the items, however, among the items that make up the categories, the correlation tends to strengthen, decreasing when compared to items in other categories. As for the Factorial Analysis, we found correlation between the variables by the Bartlett sphericity test (p <0.01) and observed a KMO 0.866 (that compares the simple partial correlations observed between variables), which indicates a good degree of common variance, allowing us to continue factor analysis (**Table 2**).

Table 2: Factorial Analysis: KMO and Sphericity Bartlett test

KMO		0,866
Sphericity Bartlett Test	Chi-square Approximate	1817,193
	Gl	276
	P	0,000

Regarding commonalities (**Table 3**), we found that, with the exception of item 14 TMMS's, all remaining items are explained, at least half of the variance in the original variables (> 0.5).

Table 3: Factorial analysis commonalities - TMMS 24

-	Inicial	Extraction
TMMS24.1	1,000	0,762
TMMS24.2	1,000	0,684
TMMS24.3	1,000	0,713
TMMS24.4	1,000	0,718
TMMS24.5	1,000	0,550
TMMS24.6	1,000	0,672
TMMS24.7	1,000	0,770
TMMS24.8	1,000	0,706
TMMS24.9	1,000	0,756
TMMS24.10	1,000	0,734
TMMS24.11	1,000	0,729
TMMS24.12	1,000	0,552
TMMS24.13	1,000	0,589
TMMS24.14	1,000	0,433
TMMS24.15	1,000	0,520
TMMS24.16	1,000	0,623
TMMS24.17	1,000	0,654
TMMS24.18	1,000	0,655
TMMS24.19	1,000	0,622
TMMS24.20	1,000	0,646
TMMS24.21	1,000	0,611
TMMS24.22	1,000	0,634
TMMS24.23	1,000	0,573
TMMS24.24	1,000	0,636

Extraction method: Principal Component Analysis

The analysis of the Eigenvalues and the discretion of the root Latent (p> 1.0), verified the existence of 6 Representative factors of about 65% of the total variance. In order to understand which variables are associated with each factor, we opted to use Varimax rotation with Kaiser Normalization. By analyzing the Factorial loads of each item (**Table 4**), we can distribute the items TMMS 1 to 4 in Component 1, items 9, 10, 11, 12, 14 and 16 of TMMS in component 2, items 17

to 20 TMMS of the component 3, items 13, 15, 21, 22 and 23 of TMMS in the component 4, the items 6 to 8 in part 5, and the items in the component 5 and 24 in the component 6.

Table 4: Factorial Analysis: Rotation Matrix (a) - 24 TMMS

-	Components					
-	1	2	3	4	5	6
TMMS24.4	0,802	0,192	0,140	0,077	-0,027	0,105
TMMS24.3	0,783	0,168	0,096	0,038	0,219	0,110
TMMS24.1	0,767	-0,041	0,107	0,280	0,284	-0,032
TMMS24.2	0,688	-0,119	0,071	0,231	0,364	0,076
TMMS24.10	-0,033	0,817	0,107	0,182	0,121	0,079
TMMS24.11	0,017	0,813	0,148	0,188	0,079	-0,068
TMMS24.9	0,297	0,773	0,155	0,048	-0,114	0,176
TMMS24.16	0,227	0,535	0,165	0,504	0,001	-0,065
TMMS24.12	0,128	0,474	0,048	0,435	0,326	0,115
TMMS24.14	-0,107	0,360	0,254	0,340	0,232	-0,242
TMMS24.18	0,058	0,093	0,782	0,171	0,031	-0,024
TMMS24.17	-0,004	0,138	0,766	0,196	0,003	0,097
TMMS24.20	0,107	0,152	0,752	0,122	0,128	0,121
TMMS24.19	0,194	0,094	0,750	0,069	-0,013	0,092
TMMS24.15	0,072	0,138	0,142	0,688	0,023	-0,039
TMMS24.13	0,172	0,328	0,117	0,634	0,190	0,021
TMMS24.23	0,370	0,233	0,228	0,531	-0,168	0,138
TMMS24.22	0,324	0,123	0,331	0,523	0,156	0,326
TMMS24.21	-0,038	-0,015	0,301	0,508	0,053	0,508
TMMS24.6	0,142	0,091	0,163	0,083	0,778	0,064
TMMS24.7	0,421	0,005	-0,092	0,059	0,761	0,030
TMMS24.8	0,534	0,231	0,054	0,057	0,560	0,217
TMMS24.24	0,064	0,048	0,213	0,101	0,012	0,758
TMMS24.5	0,356	0,075	-0,119	-0,163	0,259	0,556

Extraction method: Principal Component Analysis; Rotation Method: Varimax with Kaiser Normalization

However, as can be seen (**Table 5**), forcing the extraction of the factor analysis to be performed, only three factors / dimensions, we note that items 24 are divided in these three factors, such as the division of the original scale: Factor 1 (Items 1 to 8), Factor 2 (Items 9 to 16) and Factor 3 (Items 1 to 24).

⁽a) Rotation converged in 9 interactions.

Table 5: Factorial Analysis: Rotation Matrix- 24 TMMS forcing 3 factor solution

	Componentes			
	1	2	3	
TMMS24.2	0,778	0,013	0,183	
TMMS24.1	0,771	0,111	0,203	
TMMS24.7	0,771	0,078	-0,106	
TMMS24.8	0,768	0,243	0,079	
TMMS24.3	0,755	0,168	0,142	
TMMS24.4	0,633	0,190	0,217	
TMMS24.5	0,544	-0,059	-0,004	
TMMS24.6	0,536	0,169	0,105	
TMMS24.11	0,005	0,821	0,059	
TMMS24.10	0,024	0,806	0,055	
TMMS24.16	0,163	0,707	0,231	
TMMS24.9	0,169	0,678	0,140	
TMMS24.12	0,310	0,622	0,124	
TMMS24.13	0,263	0,583	0,254	
TMMS24.14	-0,030	0,521	0,180	
TMMS24.15	0,088	0,435	0,310	
TMMS24.17	-0,051	0,216	0,751	
TMMS24.18	-0,014	0,181	0,729	
TMMS24.19	0,092	0,119	0,718	
TMMS24.20	0,107	0,200	0,715	
TMMS24.21	0,113	0,160	0,564	
TMMS24.22	0,412	0,317	0,541	
TMMS24.24	0,206	0,000	0,439	
TMMS24.23	0,238	0,416	0,421	

Extraction method: Principal Component Analysis; Rotation Method: Varimax with Kaiser

Normalization; (The). Rotation converged in 4 interactions.

4. DISCUSSION:

Regarding TMMS24, we proceeded to the analysis of the reliability of the 24 items of the instrument in order to see if the items were to measure the construct and obtain a high internal consistency (= 0.890), almost unchanged with the elimination of any item.

With regard to the Cronbach's alpha according to Pestana and Gageiro (2008), to obtain a good reliability is required a Cronbach's alpha greater or equal to 0.7, and the value obtained in the present study was well above the recommended.

Using the cutoff points of DeVellis (2003) for the social sciences (0.60), all alpha values were well above recommended. Overall, these results indicate very good reliability; both in clinical practice and in research.

The inter-item correlation was not as strong, confirming the analysis of alpha. However, the items in each category tend to have a stronger relation/correlation with each other, between categories. We conducted factor analysis, and variability between the variables, so as to reduce them to a particular number of dimensions. Initially we observed a six-dimensional division, but we forced the analysis to only three resulting in a division of the items according to the original scale (Queirós et al., 2005). Thus, we concluded that the TMMS24 has a high internal consistency, good reliability and validity, offering us a suitable and reliable tool which we can conduct investigations in different areas such as the sports universe.

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