
Abstract

Developing a Japanese version of the Narrative Process Coding System

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Angus et al. (1999) developed the Narrative Process Coding System (NPCS), a method for analyzing psychotherapy transcripts from a narrative approach. Although highly applicable, the NPCS has some difficulties, such as the strong cultural influence of the English-speaking world on the NPSC, making some indicators not applicable in Japanese-speaking countries. In this study, we developed a Japanese version of the NPCS (NPCS-J) by modifying the original NPCS by examining the indicators and the manual for 12 transcripts of 4 cases based on Consensual Qualitative Research. The results showed that a new indicator for topics was added: conjunction with a topic change function. For narrative modes, we changed “frequent use of emotional expressions” to “use of emotional expressions” to adapt to the Japanese context, and added a new indicator of meaning-making. The inter-rater agreement levels of the NPCS-J ranged from 0.72 to 0.87 for topics and from 0.85 to 0.95 for narrative modes. This confirmed the reliability of NPCS-J.

Keywords: narrative approach, process research, psychotherapy transcripts, NPCS-J
