An exploratory study of the Multidimensional Health Locus of Control among female students in a French context

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Mots-clés	Female students [3], hierarchical cluster analysis. [4], Multidimensional health locus of control [5], multiple correspondence analysis [6]
Résumé en anglais	Background: The aim of this study is to test with an exploratory approach the relevance of the 3 MHLC sub-scales while examining the answers of a group of 61 female students in a French context. The Locus of control is acknowledged to be a personality variable which proves to be a good predictor of health problems according to its internal or external orientation. Methods: In order to study the relationships between the different items of the 3 sub-scales and the way the students' answers are configured, we performed a multiple correspondence analysis (MCA) and we grouped the female students by using a hierarchical cluster analysis (HCA). Results: Analysis with MCA clearly reveals the 3 subscales and within our sample 4 classes of female students are identified by means of HCA. Conclusion: While confirming the relevance of the 3 MHLC subscales, this study shows that in this sample of French female students, 4 personality profiles appear with differentiated perceptions of control.
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