**Functional Abdominal Pain – Assessment Measures**

**Parental Responses to Child Pain Behavior**

5. *Illness Behavior Encouragement Scale* (IBES)

Purpose of use: Assesses provision of parental attention and special privileges and relief from normal responsibility during abdominal pain episodes.

Psychometric properties:Preliminary validation of the measure was demonstrated through significant correlations with abdominal pain-related behaviors (Walker & Zeman, 1992).

Suggested next steps for validation: Continued work on the specific predictive value of attention & privileges vs. release from responsibility on child symptoms, general functioning, and disability is warranted. Replication of existing validation studies is also needed.

Relevant reference(s):

1. Walker LS, Zeman JL (1992). Parental response to child illness behavior. *J Pediatr Psychol*, *17*(1), 49-71.

6. *Adult Responses to Children’s Symptoms* (ARCS)

Purpose of use: The ARCS is a parent-report measure that includes three, factor analytically derived subscales assessing parents’ responses to their children’s pain – parent protectiveness, minimization of pain, and encouraging and monitoring responses.

Psychometric properties:The measure was been developed and initially validated in parents of children aged 8-18 (Van Slyke & Walker, 2006)

Suggested next steps for validation: Continued work on the specific predictive value of encourage/monitor vs. protect vs. minimize on child symptoms, general functioning, and disability is warranted. Second, additional research is needed to assess whether observational methodologies would yield a similar characterization of parents' responses to children's pain. Finally, replication of existing validation studies is also needed.

Relevant reference(s):

1. Van Slyke DA, Walker LS (2006). Mother’s responses to children’s pain. *Clinical Journal of Pain*, *22*, 387-391.