



HAL
open science

Validation of the French Version of the Yale Food Addiction Scale: An Examination of Its Factor Structure, Reliability and Construct Validity in a Nonclinical Sample

Paul Brunault, Nicolas Ballon, Philippe Gaillard, Christian Réveillère, Robert Courtois

► To cite this version:

Paul Brunault, Nicolas Ballon, Philippe Gaillard, Christian Réveillère, Robert Courtois. Validation of the French Version of the Yale Food Addiction Scale: An Examination of Its Factor Structure, Reliability and Construct Validity in a Nonclinical Sample. *Canadian Journal of Psychiatry / La Revue Canadienne de Psychiatrie*, 2014, 59 (5), pp.276-284. 10.1177/070674371405900507. hal-01379620

HAL Id: hal-01379620

<https://hal.science/hal-01379620v1>

Submitted on 11 Oct 2016

HAL is a multi-disciplinary open access archive for the deposit and dissemination of scientific research documents, whether they are published or not. The documents may come from teaching and research institutions in France or abroad, or from public or private research centers.

L'archive ouverte pluridisciplinaire **HAL**, est destinée au dépôt et à la diffusion de documents scientifiques de niveau recherche, publiés ou non, émanant des établissements d'enseignement et de recherche français ou étrangers, des laboratoires publics ou privés.

Title: Validation of the French Version of the Yale Food Addiction Scale: An Examination of Its Factor Structure, Reliability and Construct Validity in a Nonclinical Sample

Authors: Paul Brunault, MD¹; Nicolas Ballon, MD, PhD²; Philippe Gaillard, MD³; Christian Réveillère, PhD⁴; Robert Courtois, MD, PhD⁵

¹Psychiatrist and Addictologist, CHRU de Tours, Equipe de Liaison et de Soins en Addictologie, Tours, France; CHRU de Tours, Clinique Psychiatrique Universitaire, Tours, France; Université François Rabelais de Tours, Département de Psychologie, EA 2114 «Psychologie des Âges de la Vie», Tours, France.

Correspondence: CHRU de Tours, 2 boulevard Tonnellé, 37000, Tours, France; paul.brunault@univ-tours.fr

² Psychiatrist and Addictologist, CHRU de Tours, Equipe de Liaison et de Soins en Addictologie, Tours, France; UMR INSERM U930 ERL, Tours, France.

(a) CHRU de Tours, Clinique Psychiatrique Universitaire, Tours, France;

(b) CHRU de Tours, Équipe de Liaison et de Soins en Addictologie, Tours, France;

(c) Université François Rabelais de Tours, Tours, France;

(d) UMR INSERM U930 ERL, Tours, France.

³ Professor of Psychiatry, CHRU de Tours, Clinique Psychiatrique Universitaire, Tours, France; Professor of Psychiatry, UMR INSERM U930 ERL, Tours, France; Professor of Psychiatry, Université François Rabelais de Tours, Tours, France.

⁴ Professor of Psychology, Université François Rabelais de Tours, Département de Psychologie, EA 2114 «Psychologie des Âges de la Vie», Tours, France.

⁵ Psychiatrist, CHRU de Tours, Clinique Psychiatrique Universitaire, Tours, France; Senior Lecturer in Psychology, Université François Rabelais de Tours, Département de Psychologie, EA 2114, Tours, France.

This is the postprint version (final draft post refereeing) of the following article: “Brunault P., Ballon N., Gaillard P., Réveillère C., Courtois R. (2014). Validation of the French Version of the Yale Food Addiction Scale: An Examination of Its Factor Structure, Reliability and Construct Validity in a Nonclinical Sample. Canadian Journal of Psychiatry; 59(5):276-284 PMID: 25007281”, which has been published in final form at:<http://cpa.sagepub.com/content/59/5/276.short>

ABSTRACT

Objective: Food addiction is a concept that has recently been proposed by applying the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fourth Edition, Text Revision, criteria for substance dependence to eating behaviour. Food addiction has received increased attention given that it may play a role in binge eating, eating disorders, and the recent increase in obesity prevalence. Currently, there is no psychometrically sound tool for assessing food addiction in French. Our study aimed to test the psychometric properties of a French version of the Yale Food Addiction Scale (YFAS) by establishing its factor structure, internal consistency, and construct validity in a nonclinical population.

Method: A total of 553 participants were assessed for food addiction (French version of the YFAS) and binge eating behaviour (Bulimic Investigatory Test, Edinburgh and Binge Eating Scale). We tested the scale's factor structure (factor analysis for dichotomous data based on tetrachoric correlation coefficients), internal consistency, and construct validity with measures of binge eating.

Results: Our results supported a 1-factor structure, which accounted for 54.1% of the variance. We demonstrated that this tool had adequate reliability and highly construct validity with measures of binge eating in this population, both in its diagnosis and symptom count version. A 2-factor structure explained an additional 9.1% of the variance, and could help to differentiate between patients with high, compared with low, levels of insight regarding addiction symptoms.

Conclusions: In our study, we validated a psychometrically sound French version of the YFAS, both in its symptom count and diagnosis version. Future studies should validate this tool in clinical samples.

Clinical Implications

- Food addiction is a prevalent disorder that can be reliably assessed in French using the YFAS.
- The French version of the YFAS has a 1-factor structure and a high construct convergent validity with measures of binge eating.
- A 2-factor structure explained an additional 9.1% variance, and may distinguish between patients with and without insight regarding addiction symptoms.

Limitations

- We did not assess the YFAS factor structure, internal consistency, and validity in clinical samples.
- The cross-sectional study design did not permit test–retest validity to be established.

Key Words: food addiction, addiction, addictive behaviour, Yale Food Addiction Scale, French, psychometrics, factor analysis, binge eating disorder, Bulimic Investigatory Test Edinburgh, Binge Eating Scale

Received November 2013, revised, accepted December 2013.

Abbreviations

BES Binge Eating Scale

BITE Bulimic Investigatory Test, Edinburgh

BMI body mass index

DSM Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders

FA factor analysis

KR-20 Kuder–Richardson's Formula 20

SUD substance use disorder

YFAS Yale Food Addiction Scale

Introduction

Drug addictions are chronic relapsing disorders characterized by compulsion to seek and take the drug, a loss of control over drug-seeking and drug-taking behaviours, and the addictions typically involve maintaining drug use despite adverse consequences.¹ In recent years, interesting clinical and scientific shifts in perspective have occurred, with many believing that addiction should include a person's compulsive engagement in activities, such as gaming, internet use, and shopping, in addition to pharmacologic rewards.² Current debates have even extended the definition of addiction to so-called behavioural addictions (also called nonchemical addictions or nondrug addictions), that include the use of natural rewards, such as behaviours that are intrinsically necessary for our survival and in which we freely engage with pleasure and without social sanction, including sex, gambling, and eating.^{3,4} A growing body of evidence suggests that behavioural addictions resemble substance addictions across numerous domains, including natural history, phenomenology, tolerance, comorbidity, overlapping genetic contributions, neurobiological mechanisms, and responses to treatment.²

As a part of this growing body of research, the concept of food addiction has recently been proposed by applying the DSM-IV-TR criteria for substance dependence to eating behaviours. Patients who exhibit eating patterns that are similar to behaviours classically seen in patients with drug addiction are described as having a food addiction.⁵ This concept has received increasing attention given the role it may play in binge eating, eating disorders, and the recent increase in obesity prevalence.⁶ Although the evidence for and against the food addiction or compulsive eating model is debatable,⁶⁻⁸ and it is unclear whether this model explains the increased prevalence in obesity,^{9,10} the possibility that addiction to food represents a reliable phenotypical description of numerous patients is increasingly supported by research with humans and animals.^{5,11,12} Current literature^{5,12} suggests that a wide range of patients exhibit significant distress in their relations to food, lose control over their food consumption, suffer from repeated failed attempts to reduce their intake, and are unable to abstain from specific types of foods or reduce their consumption despite negative consequences.

Specifically, a growing body of research^{10,13} supports the hypothesis that specific types of food (for example, refined foods that are high fat and sugar) may have addictive properties similar to those of classic substances, such as alcohol, tobacco, or cocaine. Refined food addiction has been proposed as a classic SUD.¹⁰ Thus, researchers have been motivated to apply the DSM-IV-TR substance dependence criteria to the field of eating behaviours. Food addiction is diagnosed when at least 3 symptoms (1 of 7) are present during the past 12 months and a clinically significant impairment or level of distress is endorsed.

Therefore, a psychometrically sound tool for assessing food addiction that applies the DSM-IV-TR substance dependence criteria to the field of eating behaviours is needed. Gearhardt et al¹⁴ developed the YFAS to identify people who are exhibiting signs of addiction regarding specific types of food (for example, high fat and sugar) by extrapolating the 7 DSM-IV-TR criteria for substance dependence to the field of eating behaviours. This self-administered scale has demonstrated adequate reliability and validity and has been used with clinical and nonclinical samples, and is considered the gold standard for assessing food addiction. Studies using this scale have shown that food addiction is highly prevalent in a subpopulation of obese patients and in patients with binge eating disorders.^{15,16} In an examination of obese patients with binge eating disorders, the criteria for food addiction was met by 57% of the sample, and food addiction scores were significant predictors of binge eating frequencies, even when controlling for other factors, such as eating disorder psychopathology and negative affect.¹⁷ Moreover, scores on the YFAS correlated with neural activation patterns in a manner consistent with findings regarding substance dependence (for example, elevated activation in reward circuitry in response to food cues and reduced activation in inhibitory regions).¹⁸ These findings support the appropriateness of this scale for assessing food addiction.

To our knowledge, there is not currently a French version of the YFAS, and only a limited number of studies have assessed food addiction in non-United States and non-European locations. To date, no studies have been conducted in French-speaking countries, and Meule et al¹⁹ highlighted the need for studies that assess the prevalence of food addiction and the factors associated with food addiction.

Our study aimed to measure the psychometric properties of a French version of the YFAS with a nonclinical sample by establishing its factor structure, internal consistency, and construct convergent validity with measures of binge eating behaviours.

Methods

Participants and Procedures

A total of 553 participants participated in our study. Participants completed a web-based questionnaire, which was created using Sphinx software (Sphinx Plus 2 version 5.1.0.4).²⁰ The questionnaire included items regarding sociodemographic characteristics (for example, age, sex, and current BMI) and the following 3 self-administered scales: the YFAS, the BITE, and the BES.

We obtained permission from Ashley Gearhardt for the translation and validation of a French version of the YFAS. The YFAS translation procedure used in our study was consistent with existing guidelines for scale validation.²¹ First, the YFAS was translated from English to French by 3 translators who were qualified specialists in addiction, psychology, and psychiatry and who were native French speakers. This step ensured the production of a translation that achieved consensus from all of the translators. Second, a translator whose native language was English performed a blind-backward translation of the initially translated version of the YFAS. Finally, a committee of 3 expert psychiatrists from the fields of addictive behaviours and eating disorders compared the back-translated scale with the initially translated version of the YFAS to produce a final French version of the YFAS. The committee's aims were to verify the cross-cultural equivalence of the source and final versions, ensure that the translation was fully comprehensible, and modify the items, instructions, or format if necessary. Finally, a pilot version of the scale was tested with a small sample of French participants to evaluate the scale's instructions, response format, and items for clarity. The Appendix presents the final French version of the YFAS.

Measures

The Yale Food Addiction Scale

The YFAS is a 25-item self-report scale designed by Gearhardt et al¹⁴ to measure the symptoms of food addiction that have occurred over the past 12 months. The authors developed this scale to identify people exhibiting signs of addiction regarding specific types of foods (for example, high fat and sugar) by extrapolating the DSM-IV-TR criteria for substance dependence to the field of eating behaviours.⁵ This scale includes mixed response categories (that is, items that are presented in either a dichotomous or Likert-type format). In accordance with the diagnostic criteria for substance dependence, as stated by the DSM-IV-TR,² this scale assesses the following 7 food addiction criteria¹⁴: A) tolerance (items 20 and 21); B) withdrawal (items 12, 13, and 14); C) the substance is often taken in larger amounts or over a longer period than was intended (items 1, 2, and 3); D) a persistent desire or unsuccessful effort to cut down or control substance use (items 4, 22, 24, and 25); E) spending a great deal of time in activities necessary to obtain the substance, use the substance, or recover from its effects (items 5, 6, and 7); F) giving up social, occupational, or recreational activities because of substance use (items 8, 9, 10, and 11); and G) continuing substance use with the knowledge that it is causing or exacerbating a persistent or recurrent physical or psychological problem (item 19). The YFAS has 2 additional items that assess peoples' clinically significant

impairment or distress caused by eating (items 15 and 16). Items 17, 18, and 23 are primers for other questions and are not scored.

Gearhardt et al¹⁴ defined specific cut-offs such that each of the 7 diagnostic criteria was satisfied when 1 or more item representing that criterion was endorsed. The YFAS provides 2 scoring options, which are a symptom count version and a diagnostic version. The symptom count version reflects the number of dependence symptoms experienced in the past 12 months (that is, YFAS symptom count scores range from 0 to 7). In the diagnostic version, food addiction is diagnosed when 3 or more symptoms were present during the past 12 months and clinically significant impairment or distress was endorsed.

This scale has been validated in English, has exhibited adequate internal consistency (Cronbach's $\alpha = 0.86$), and has shown good construct convergent validity with measures of similar constructs and good discriminant validity relative to with measures of related but dissimilar constructs.¹⁴ Additionally, this scale has been validated in German with clinical²² and nonclinical samples²³ with similar psychometric properties.

The Binge Eating Scale

The BES is a 16-item scale designed to assess peoples' severity of binge eating using behavioural, affective, and cognitive symptoms.²⁴ The BES is a widely used scale to assess binge eating disorder²⁵ and provides an overall score by summing each of the items (each ranging from 0 to 3), with a higher score reflecting more severe binge eating problems. Internal consistency in our sample for this measure was excellent (Cronbach's $\alpha = 0.92$).

The Bulimic Investigatory Test, Edinburgh

The BITE is a 33-item self-report measure developed by Henderson and Freeman to assess the severity and frequency of binge eating symptoms.²⁶ The severity of peoples' binge eating behaviour is assessed according to the symptom score from this scale, which ranges from 0 to 30. According to Henderson and Freeman,²⁶ this scale has satisfactory reliability and validity when used with binge eating patients. Internal consistency in our sample for this measure was excellent (KR-20 internal reliability coefficient was 0.96).

Statistical Analyses and Ethical Considerations

Analyses were conducted using the *R* statistical package version 2.15.2²⁷ with the psych package.²⁸ Statistical analyses included descriptive statistics and tests examining the psychometric properties of the scale, including its factor structure, the item statistics, internal consistency, and construct convergent validity.

To test the scale's factor structure, we used the procedure used in Gearhardt's original publication.¹⁴ Therefore, we conducted a factor analysis for dichotomous data based on polychoric correlation coefficients²⁹ to explore the number of underlying factors. The initial factor analysis for the original 22 dichotomous items revealed that 1 item (item 24) did not strongly correlate with the remaining items of the scale, as it had a low factor loading of -0.03 . In accordance with Gearhardt et al's previous research, we excluded this item from the analysis and performed new statistical analyses. We determined the number of factors to extract by examining the scree plot (eigenvalues and by examining Cattell's scree test^{30, 31}), and by conducting Horn's parallel analysis test.³² Final factor analysis was thus based on the original 21 items that were included in the YFAS (excluding the significance questions), and was conducted using a varimax rotation. We also tested the factor structure of the YFAS in its diagnosis version, by conducting a factor analysis using a varimax rotation for the 8 dichotomous diagnostic criteria (7 diagnostic DSM criteria in addition to significance questions).

We tested the internal consistency of the scale, as in the extent to which the items in a dimension were correlated with each other, using the KR-20 coefficient, given that the items were all dichotomous.³³ Construct convergent validity was assessed by examining the associations between the YFAS scores and the measures of binge eating behaviours. First, we described the construct convergent validity of the YFAS symptom count, and then we described that of the diagnosis version. We examined the associations between the YFAS symptom count score and both the BES total score and the BITE symptom score (Spearman rho correlation coefficients). We used nonparametric tests for these analyses; given that we rejected the normality hypothesis for the YFAS symptom scores (a Shapiro–Wilk test was significant). Next, we tested construct convergent validity for the diagnosis version. We used Mann–Whitney *U* tests to assess the associations between the diagnosis of food addiction and binge eating, as assessed by the BES and BITE. All analyses were 2-tailed, with *P* values of less than 0.05 considered statistically significant. There were no missing data, as all of the questions required responses to proceed to the next page of the survey. Our study did not require institutional review board approval because it was not considered biomedical research under French law; however, it followed the tenets of the Declaration of Helsinki.

Results

Sample Characteristics

Participants had a mean age of 28.9 years (SD 12.0; 95%CI 27.9 to 29.9), a mean current BMI of 22.5 kg/m² (SD 4.5; 95%CI 22.2 to 22.9). Food addiction was diagnosed in 8.7% of our sample. The median YFAS symptom count (the number of criteria satisfied for food dependence) was 1, and the mean YFAS symptom count score was 1.9 (SD 1.4; 95%CI 1.8 to 2.0). The mean BES total score was 8.2 (SD 8.9; 95%CI 7.4 to 8.9), and the mean BITE symptom score was 7.7 (SD 6.4; 95%CI 7.1 to 8.2).

Item Statistics, Factor Structure, and Reliability

Table 1 summarizes the item statistics, including the mean, standard deviation, and itemtotal correlation for each item.

By examining the scree plot, the factor analysis based on the original 21 items identified 2 factors based on their eigenvalues (factor 1: 10.96 and factor 2: 1.48), suggesting a 1- or a 2-factor structure. An examination of Cattell's scree and a parallel analysis suggested the extraction of 1 factor (Figure 1). Following Cattell's advice,³⁴ we extracted an extra factor and studied the 1- and 2-factors solutions.

A 1-factor structure explained 54.1% of the variance. For this 1-factor structure, all of the factor loadings were greater than 0.57 except for item 6, which had a factor loading of 0.46, and the KR-20 internal reliability coefficient was good (KR-20 = 0.84) for these items (Table 2). An alternative 2-factor structure explained an additional 9.5% of the variance (factor 1 explained 34.3% of variance and factor 2 explained 29.4% of variance). For the 2-factor structure, all of the factor loadings were greater than 0.43 (Table 3), and the KR-20 internal reliability coefficient was good for the first factor (KR-20 = 0.81) and adequate for the second factor (KR-20 = 0.67). In this 2-factor solution, the first factor consisted of items belonging primarily to DSM criteria A, criteria B, criteria C, criteria E, criteria F, and criteria G (Table 2). The second factor consisted of items belonging primarily to DSM criteria D (persistent desire or unsuccessful efforts to limit or control substance use), criteria F (giving up social, occupational, or recreational activities because of substance use), and significant distress (Table 2). Thus, our results mainly support a 1-factor structure, which explained 54.1% of the variance.

As for the factor structure of the YFAS in its diagnosis version, a parallel factor analysis based on the 8 dichotomous diagnostic criteria (7 diagnostic DSM criteria in addition to significance

questions) identified a single-factor structure. In this single-factor structure, all of the criteria had factor loadings for the single factor of 0.61 or greater. The KR-20 internal reliability coefficient was 0.76 when taking into account all of the diagnostic criteria.

Construct Validation Convergent Validity

First, we assessed construct convergent validity by examining the correlations between the YFAS symptom count scores and the measures of binge eating behaviours (that is, the BES total and BITE symptom scores). The YFAS symptom score was significantly correlated with the BITE symptom score (Spearman $\rho = 0.59$; $P < 0.001$) and the BES total score (Spearman $\rho = 0.58$; $P < 0.001$).

Second, we evaluated the associations between the diagnosis of a food addiction and binge eating scores. The diagnosis of a food addiction was associated with higher binge eating scores, as assessed by the BITE symptom score (20.5 [SD 5.1], compared with 6.5 [SD 5.0]; $P < 0.001$) and the BES total score (26.0 [SD 10.2], compared with 6.5 [SD 6.6]; $P < 0.001$).

Discussion

Our study aimed to measure the psychometric properties of a French version of the YFAS and to establish its reliability and construct validity in a nonclinical sample. We demonstrated that this scale had a 1-factorial structure, good internal consistency, and high construct convergent validity with 1 measure of binge eating, both in its diagnosis and symptom count versions.

We found that the previously proposed 1-factor structure for this scale was the best factorial structure and explained a high proportion of the variance for the French version of this scale, which is consistent with Gearhardt et al's original results.¹⁴ This 1-factor structure was obtained after excluding item 24, which assessed the existence of failed attempts to limit the consumption of high fat and sugar foods. This item is categorized within the fourth DSM-IV-TR addiction criterion, known as "persistent desire or repeated unsuccessful attempts to quit" (items 4, 22, 24, and 25). The low factor loadings and high standard deviations for items 22 and 24 have been discussed by Meule et al,²² suggesting that these items do not sufficiently differentiate between people with and without food addictions. These 2 items (22 and 24) refer to the persistent desire to control food that may be experienced by patients with obesity, who binge eat, who are foodaddicted, or who are suffering from bulimianervosa or anorexia nervosa. Therefore, item 24 could be eliminated from the scale or rephrased given its low psychometric qualities, and replaced by a more specific item for food addiction. Additional items assessing "persistent desire or repeated unsuccessful attempts to control food" would be necessary to better differentiate between control owing to food addiction and control owing to fear of weight gain, as this latter dimension is frequently evident in patients with anorexia nervosa and a subtype of bulimia nervosa.

We confirmed the adequate reliability of this scale, both in its diagnosis and symptom count versions. The high factor loadings evident in the factor analysis for the dichotomous criteria support the use of the 7 DSM-IV-TR criteria for substance dependence in the fields of eating behaviours and food addiction. Our results support the adequate reliability of the food addiction concept, as assessed by the DSM-IV-TR addiction criteria. In our study, we found a prevalence rate for food addiction (8.7%) that was comparable with the rates reported for the United States (11.4%) and Germany (8.8%).^{14,19} Additionally, the median number of food addiction criteria found in this sample was 1, which was comparable with the United States and German versions. These results suggest that the French version of the YFAS has similar psychometric properties to the previously validated United States and German versions in nonclinical samples. These results support the use of the YFAS as an interesting tool for assessing food addiction in the overall population.

We demonstrated that the French version of the YFAS has highly construct convergent validity with measures of binge eating. This result is consistent with previous research showing a strong association between food addiction and binge eating.³⁵

In addition, our results suggest that a 2-factor structure of the scale slightly improved the explained variance. Interestingly, this 2-factor solution may help differentiate between the following 2 subtypes of patients with food addiction: patients with high and low insight regarding addiction symptoms. Factor 1 includes the DSM criteria that assess addiction symptoms independent of the patients' level of insight regarding their addiction (criteria A, B, C, F, and G), whereas factor 2 includes the DSM criteria that assess this level of insight (criteria D: persistent desire or unsuccessful efforts to limit or control substance use; criteria F: giving up social, occupational, or recreational activities because of substance use; and significant distress). The dimension of high or low insight may be important for both clinical practice and research because it implies different therapeutic strategies. Approaches that develop adequate management strategies for patients depending on their level of insight into their addiction may be optimal. Future research should better assess this dimension of insight among patients with food addiction.

Among the potential limitations of our study, we studied the YFAS only in a nonclinical population. Future studies should assess reliability and construct validity of the YFAS in clinical samples, including patients with binge eating disorder, bulimia nervosa, and anorexia nervosa, as well as the test-retest reliability validity of this scale. Future studies should also assess food addiction using both semi-structured interviews and self-administered scales to establish the sensitivity and specificity of the YFAS. To be consistent with recent DSM-5 criteria for food addiction, the YFAS could be updated in the future by adding items that could assess the 4 additional DSM-5 criteria.

Conclusions

In conclusion, we demonstrated that this French version of the YFAS is a psychometrically sound tool that can be used in future food addiction studies to assess patients who experience addiction-related symptoms in their eating behaviours. One future aim is to use this scale with a clinical sample to better understand the psychopathologic and psychiatric factors associated with food addiction. Another interesting future aim is to study peoples' insights into their addictions in these populations. A deeper understanding of these issues will provide a crucial preliminary step that will aid in the development of effective psychotherapeutic and psychopharmacological strategies for patients with food addiction.

Acknowledgments

We thank Yacine Raouf Dendane for assistance with data collection. We thank Ashley Gearhardt for the kind permission to translate and use the YFAS and for providing us references that helped us in the validation of this French version. We thank William Revelle for helping us in using the psych statistical package. We thank AJE for editing our manuscript.

The authors declare that they have no potential or perceived conflicts of interest. The authors received no funding for this study.

References

1. American Psychiatric Association (APA). DSM-IV-TR: Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders. 4th ed. Washington (DC): APA; 2000.
2. Grant JE, Potenza MN, Weinstein A, et al. Introduction to behavioral addictions. *Am J Drug Alcohol Abuse*. 2010;36(5):233-241.

3. Davis C, Claridge G. The eating disorders as addiction: a psychobiological perspective. *Addict Behav.* 1998;23(4):463–475.
4. Nestler EJ. Is there a common molecular pathway for addiction? *Nat Neurosci.* 2005;8(11):1445–1449.
5. Gearhardt AN, Corbin WR, Brownell KD. Food addiction: an examination of the diagnostic criteria for dependence. *J Addict Med.* 2009a;3(1):1–7.
6. Corsica JA, Pelchat ML. Food addiction: true or false? *Curr Opin Gastroenterol.* 2010;26(2):165–169.
7. Corwin RL, Grigson PS. Symposium overview—food addiction: fact or fiction? *J Nut.* 2009;139(3):617–619.
8. Davis C, Carter JC. Compulsive overeating as an addiction disorder. A review of theory and evidence. *Appetite.* 2009;53(1):1–8.
9. Gold MS, Graham NA, Cocores JA, et al. Food addiction? *J Addict Med.* 2009;3(1):42–45.
10. Ifland JR, Preuss HG, Marcus MT, et al. Refined food addiction: a classic substance use disorder. *Med Hypotheses.* 2009;72(5):518–526.
11. Avena NM, Gold MS. Food and addiction—sugars, fats and hedonic overeating. *Addiction.* 2011;106(7):1214–1215.
12. Blumenthal DM, Gold MS. Neurobiology of food addiction. *Curr Opin Clin Nutr Metab Care.* 2010;13(4):359–365.
13. Avena NM, Rada P, Hoebel BG. Evidence for sugar addiction: behavioral and neurochemical effects of intermittent, excessive sugar intake. *Neurosci Biobehav Rev.* 2008;32(1):20–39.
14. Gearhardt AN, Corbin WR, Brownell KD. Preliminary validation of the Yale Food Addiction Scale. *Appetite.* 2009;52(2):430–436.
15. Davis C, Curtis C, Levitan RD, et al. Evidence that ‘food addiction’ is a valid phenotype of obesity. *Appetite.* 2011;57(3):711–717.
16. Gearhardt AN, White MA, Masheb RM, et al. An examination of food addiction in a racially diverse sample of obese patients with binge eating disorder in primary care settings. *Compr Psychiatry.* 2013;54(5):500–505.
17. Gearhardt AN, White MA, Masheb RM, et al. An examination of the food addiction construct in obese patients with binge eating disorder. *Int J Eat Disord.* 2012;45(5):657–663.
18. Gearhardt AN, Yokum S, Orr PT, et al. Neural correlates of food addiction. *Arch Gen Psychiatry.* 2011;68(8):808–816.
19. Meule A. How prevalent is food addiction? *Front Psychiatry.* 2011;2(61):1–4.
20. Le Sphinx, Mise en place d’une enquête avec Sphinx, support d’utilisation, Service formations. Annecy : Le Sphinx Développement (www.lesphinx.eu); 2010.
21. Guillemin F, Bombardier C, Beaton D. Cross-cultural adaptation of health-related quality of life measures: literature review and proposed guidelines. *J Clin Epidemiol.* 1993;46(12):1417–1432.
22. Meule A, Heckel D, Kübler A. Factor structure and item analysis of the Yale Food Addiction Scale in obese candidates for bariatric surgery. *Eur Eat Disord Rev.* 2012;20(5):419–422.
23. Meule A, Vögele C, Kübler A. German translation and validation of the Yale Food Addiction Scale. *Diagnostica.* 2012;58(3):115–126.
24. Gormally J, Black S, Daston S, et al. The assessment of binge eating severity among obese persons. *Addict Behav.* 1982;7(1):47–55.
25. Wilfley DE, Wilson GT, Agras WS. The clinical significance of binge eating disorder. *Int J Eat Disord.* 2003;34(S1):S96–S106.

26. Henderson M, Freeman, CP. A self-rating scale for bulimia. The 'BITE.' Br J Psychiatry. 1987;150(1):18–24.
27. R Development Core Team. R: a language and environment for statistical computing. Vienna (AU): R Foundation for Statistical Computing; 2013. Available from: <http://www.R-project.org/>.
28. Revelle W. Psych: procedures for personality and psychological research. Version 1.3.10. Evanston (IL): Northwestern University; 2013. Available from: <http://CRAN.R-project.org/package=psych>.
29. Kubinger KD. On artificial results due to using factor analysis for dichotomous variables. Psychol Sci. 2003;45(1):106–110.
30. Cattell, RB. The scree test for the number of factors. Multivariate Behav Res. 1966;1(2):245–276.
31. Jolliffe IT. Principal component analysis. New York (NY): Springer; 2005.
32. Horn JL. A rationale and test for the number of factors in factor analysis. Psychometrika. 1965;30(2):179–185.
33. Kuder GF, Richardson MW. The theory of the estimation of test reliability. Psychometrika. 1937;2(3):151–160.
34. Gorsuch RL. Factor analysis. 2nd ed. London (GB): Psychology Press; 2008.
35. Gearhardt AN, White MA, Potenza MN. Binge eating disorder and food addiction. Curr Drug Abuse Rev. 2011;4(3):201–207.

TABLES

Table 1. Item statistics for the Yale Food Addiction Scale

	Mean	SD	Item-total correlation
<i>Criteria A: Tolerance</i>			
Item 20.	.09	.28	.42
Item 21.	.19	.39	.40
<i>Criteria B: Withdrawal</i>			
Item 12.	.02	.13	.53
Item 13.	.07	.25	.52
Item 14.	.08	.27	.57
<i>Criteria C: Substance often taken in larger amounts or over a longer period than was intended</i>			
Item 1.	.09	.28	.58
Item 2.	.12	.32	.51
Item 3.	.04	.20	.62
<i>Criteria D: Persistent desire or unsuccessful effort to cut down or control substance use</i>			
Item 4.	.12	.32	.51
Item 22.	.59	.49	.34
Item 24.	.57	.50	-.02
Item 25.	.25	.44	.50
<i>Criteria E: Spending a great deal of time in activities necessary to obtain the substances, use the substance or recover from its effects.</i>			
Item 5.	.13	.33	.48
Item 6.	.06	.23	.29
Item 7.	.05	.22	.48
<i>Criteria F: Giving up social, occupational, or recreational activities because of substance use</i>			
Item 8.	.05	.22	.66
Item 9.	.04	.19	.72
Item 10.	.04	.20	.55
Item 11.	.04	.20	.47
<i>Criteria G: Continuing substance use despite physical or psychological problem</i>			
Item 19.	.20	.40	.49
<i>Significant distress</i>			
Item 15.	.10	.30	.68
Item 16.	.03	.17	.66

Table 2. Factor loadings for the one and two-factor structures of the Yale Food Addiction Scale (factor analysis)

	One- factor structure Factor 1 loading	Two-factor structure	
		Factor 1 loading	Factor 2 loading
<i>Criteria A: Tolerance</i>			
Item 20.	.61	.49¹	.36
Item 21.	.57	.43¹	.36
<i>Criteria B: Withdrawal</i>			
Item 12.	.82	.66¹	.49
Item 13.	.74	.70¹	.33
Item 14.	.78	.72¹	.36
<i>Criteria C: Substance often taken in larger amounts or over a longer period than was intended</i>			
Item 1.	.78	.80¹	.27
Item 2.	.69	.77¹	.17
Item 3.	.85	.77¹	.41
<i>Criteria D: Persistent desire or unsuccessful effort to cut down or control substance use</i>			
Item 4.	.70	.53¹	.46
Item 22.	.58	.18	.66²
Item 24. ³	-	-	-
Item 25.	.71	.31	.71²
<i>Criteria E: Spending a great deal of time in activities necessary to obtain the substances, use the substance or recover from its effects.</i>			
Item 5.	.67	.54¹	.40
Item 6.	.46	.76¹	-.16
Item 7.	.70	.73¹	.23
<i>Criteria F: Giving up social, occupational, or recreational activities because of substance use</i>			
Item 8.	.87	.65¹	.57
Item 9.	.93	.69¹	.62
Item 10.	.76	.21	.90²
Item 11.	.64	-	.92²
<i>Criteria G: Continuing substance use despite physical or psychological problem</i>			
Item 19.	.67	.54¹	.41
<i>Significant distress</i>			
Item 15.	.86	.49	.74²
Item 16.	.90	.47	.82²

¹ indicates items associated with the first factor of the two-factor structure.

² indicates items associated with the second factor of the two-factor structure.

³ Item 24 was not included in the analysis because of its low factor loading.

FIGURES

Figure 1. French version of the Yale Food Addiction Scale DSM-IV-TR

Consignes pour remplir l'échelle: Ce questionnaire porte sur vos habitudes alimentaires de l'année passée. Les gens ont parfois du mal à maîtriser leur consommation de certains aliments telles que:

- Les aliments sucrés comme la crème glacée, le chocolat, les beignets, les paquets de biscuits, les gâteaux et les bonbons.
- Les féculents comme le pain blanc, les petits pains, les pâtes et le riz.
- Les aliments salés comme les chips, les bretzels et les biscuits.
- Les aliments gras comme le steak, le bacon, les hamburgers, les cheeseburgers, les pizzas et les frites.
- Les boissons sucrées comme le soda.

Pour les questions suivantes qui portent sur « CERTAINS ALIMENTS », pensez à tout aliment équivalent à ceux qui sont énumérés ci-dessus ou d'autres aliments avec lesquels vous avez eu des difficultés au cours de l'année passée.

Au cours des 12 derniers mois :

	Jamais	Une fois par mois	2 à 4 fois par mois	2 à 4 fois par semaine	Plus de 4 fois par semaine ou tous les jours
1. Je pense que lorsque je commence à manger certains aliments, je finis par manger beaucoup plus que prévu.	<input type="checkbox"/> ₀	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
2. Je constate que je continue à manger certains aliments même lorsque je n'ai plus faim.	<input type="checkbox"/> ₀	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
3. Je mange jusqu'à me sentir « mal » physiquement.	<input type="checkbox"/> ₀	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
4. Le fait d'arrêter de manger certains types d'aliments ou de les réduire, est quelque chose qui me préoccupe.	<input type="checkbox"/> ₀	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
5. Je passe beaucoup de temps à me sentir endormi(e) ou fatigué(e) après avoir trop mangé.	<input type="checkbox"/> ₀	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
6. Je me retrouve fréquemment en train de manger certains aliments tout au long de la journée.	<input type="checkbox"/> ₀	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
7. Lorsque certains aliments ne sont pas disponibles, je vais aller les acheter. Par exemple, je ne vais pas hésiter à me rendre dans un magasin pour en acheter alors que j'ai d'autres aliments à la maison.	<input type="checkbox"/> ₀	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
8. Il m'est arrivé de consommer certains aliments si souvent ou en si grandes quantités que je mangeais au lieu de travailler, au lieu de passer du temps avec ma famille ou mes amis, ou de réaliser des activités importantes ou des activités de loisirs que j'apprécie habituellement.	<input type="checkbox"/> ₀	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
9. Il m'est arrivé de consommer certains aliments si souvent ou en si grandes quantités que je passais mon temps à avoir des pensées négatives sur ma consommation excessive, au lieu de passer du temps avec ma famille ou mes amis, ou de réaliser des activités importantes ou des activités de loisir que j'apprécie habituellement.	<input type="checkbox"/> ₀	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
10. Il m'est arrivé d'éviter certaines situations professionnelles ou relationnelles au cours desquelles certains aliments étaient disponibles car j'avais peur d'en manger en excès.	<input type="checkbox"/> ₀	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
11. Il m'est arrivé d'éviter certaines situations professionnelles ou relationnelles, car je ne me sentais pas capable d'y consommer certains aliments.	<input type="checkbox"/> ₀	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
12. J'ai eu des symptômes de sevrage (agitation, anxiété ou autres symptômes physiques) quand j'ai diminué ou arrêté de consommer certains aliments (Merci de ne pas inclure ceux provoqués par l'arrêt de boissons contenant de la caféine comme certains sodas, le café, le thé, les boissons énergisantes, etc...).	<input type="checkbox"/> ₀	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄

	Jamais	Une fois par mois	2 à 4 fois par mois	2 à 4 fois par semaine	Plus de 4 fois par semaine ou tous les jours
13. J'ai consommé certains aliments pour éviter de me sentir anxieux, agité ou de développer d'autres symptômes physiques (Merci de ne pas inclure ceux provoqués par l'arrêt de boissons contenant de la caféine comme certains sodas, le café, le thé, les boissons énergisantes, etc.).	<input type="checkbox"/> ₀	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
14. J'ai constaté que j'avais un besoin plus important ou une envie irrésistible de manger certains aliments lorsque j'en diminuais la consommation ou lorsque j'arrêtais d'en manger.	<input type="checkbox"/> ₀	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
15. Mon comportement vis-à-vis la nourriture et de l'alimentation est source d'une souffrance marquée.	<input type="checkbox"/> ₀	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
16. Je rencontre des difficultés importantes pour mener à bien mes activités (pour les tâches quotidiennes, le travail / l'école, les activités sociales, les activités familiales, problèmes de santé) à cause de la nourriture et de l'alimentation.	<input type="checkbox"/> ₀	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄

Au cours de ces 12 derniers mois :

	Non	Oui
17. Ma consommation de nourriture a provoqué d'importants problèmes psychologiques comme de la dépression, de l'anxiété, un dégoût de moi-même ou de la culpabilité.	<input type="checkbox"/> ₀	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁
18. Ma consommation de nourriture a provoqué ou aggravé d'importants problèmes physiques.	<input type="checkbox"/> ₀	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁
19. J'ai continué à consommer les mêmes types d'aliments ou la même quantité de nourriture malgré l'existence de problèmes physiques et/ou psychologiques.	<input type="checkbox"/> ₀	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁
20. Au fil du temps, j'ai constaté que j'avais besoin de manger de plus en plus pour obtenir le même effet, qu'il s'agisse de la diminution d'émotions négatives ou d'un plus grand plaisir.	<input type="checkbox"/> ₀	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁
21. J'ai l'impression que le fait de manger la même quantité de nourriture ne diminue pas mes émotions négatives ou n'augmente pas le plaisir que je peux ressentir comme par le passé.	<input type="checkbox"/> ₀	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁
22. Je veux réduire ou arrêter de manger certains types d'aliments.	<input type="checkbox"/> ₀	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁
23. J'ai essayé de réduire ou d'arrêter de manger certains types d'aliments.	<input type="checkbox"/> ₀	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁
24. J'ai réussi à arrêter ou à ne pas manger ce genre d'aliments.	<input type="checkbox"/> ₀	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁

Au cours de ces 12 derniers mois :

	Une fois	2 fois	3 fois	4 fois	5 fois ou plus
25. Au cours de la dernière année, combien de fois en tout avez-vous essayé de réduire ou d'arrêter de manger certains aliments ?	<input type="checkbox"/> ₀	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄

26. Merci d'encercler TOUS les aliments avec lesquels vous avez actuellement des difficultés.

Crème glacée	Chocolat	Pommes	Beignets	
Brocoli	Paquets de biscuits	Gâteaux	Pain	blanc
Les petits pains	Laitue	Pâtes	Fraises	
Riz	Crackers	Bretzels	Frites	
Carottes	Steak	Bananes	Bacon	
Hamburgers	Pizzas	Soda	Esquimau	
Bonbons	Chips	Cheeseburgers	Aucun de ces aliments	

27. Merci de lister ici quels sont les autres aliments avec lesquels vous avez des difficultés (merci de ne mentionner que les aliments n'étant pas déjà dans la liste ci-dessus)

Modalités de cotation :

(Pour obtenir le fichier permettant de calculer automatiquement les scores en fonction des réponses obtenues, vous pouvez envoyer un mail à : paul.brunault@univ-tours.fr)

Les items de l'échelle permettent d'évaluer chacun des 7 critères de dépendance et l'existence d'une souffrance significative selon les critères DSM-IV-TR :

- 1) Tolérance (items 20 et 21)
- 2) Sevrage (items 12, 13 et 14)
- 3) Substance prise en quantité plus importante ou pendant une durée plus importante que prévue (items 1, 2 et 3).
- 4) Désir persistant ou efforts infructueux pour limiter ou arrêter la consommation de la substance (items 4, 22, 24, 25).
- 5) Beaucoup de temps passé pour consommer la substance ou pour se remettre de ses effets (items 5, 6 et 7).
- 6) Abandon d'activités sociales, professionnelles ou de loisirs (items 8, 9, 10 et 11).
- 7) Poursuite de la consommation malgré l'existence de conséquences physiques et/ou psychologiques (item 19).

Souffrance marquée : items 15 et 16.

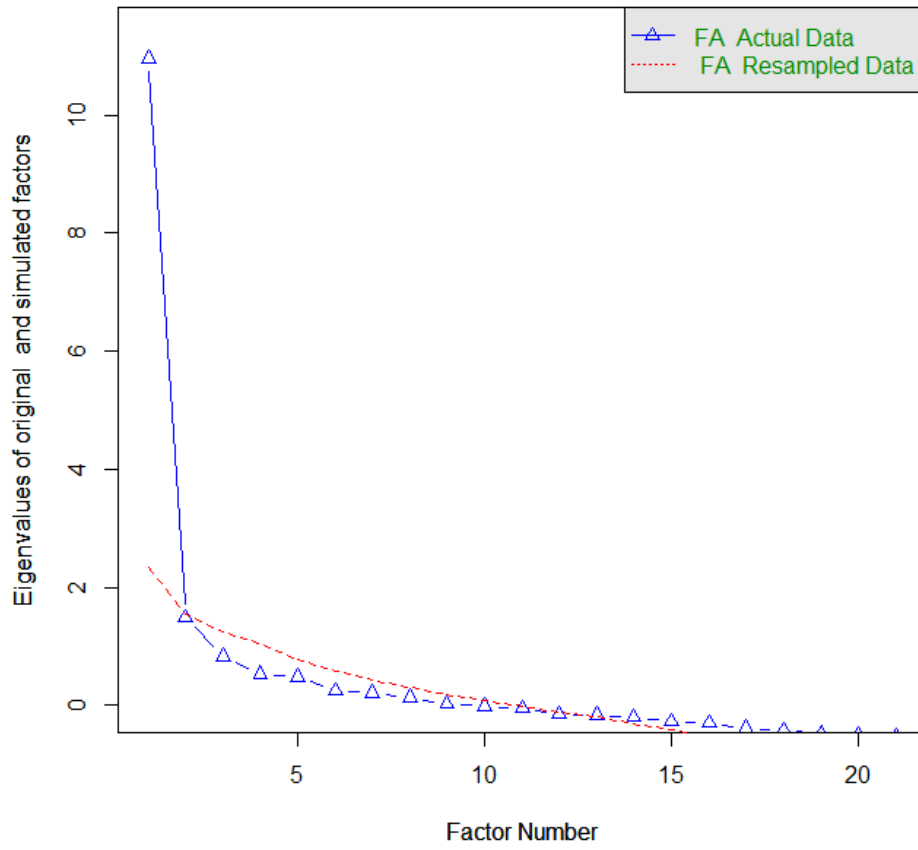
Pour parler d'addiction à l'alimentation, il faut que la personne ait au moins 3 critères sur 7 positifs ET qu'elle remplisse également le critère "souffrance marquée". Pour qu'un critère soit considéré comme "positif", il faut qu'au moins un des items du critère ait un score significatif. Les cut-offs de significativité sont les suivants :

- Items 25 : score significatif si réponse ≥ 4 .
- Items 1, 2, 4 et 6 : score significatif si réponse ≥ 4 .
- Items 3, 5, 7, 9, 12, 13, 14, 15 et 16 : score significatif si réponse ≥ 3 .
- Items 8, 10, 11 : score significatif si réponse ≥ 2 .
- Item 24 : score significatif si réponse est "non".
- Items 19, 20, 21, 22 : score significatif si réponse est "oui".

Les items 17, 18 et 23 ne font pas l'objet de cotation (il s'agit de questions servant d'amorces pour les questions suivantes).

Figure 2. Scree plot and eigenvalues of the French version of the Yale Food Addiction Scale

Eigenvalues of tetrachoric/polychoric matrix



FA: Factor analysis