

**New Conceptualizations in Psychopathy: The
Comprehensive Assessment of
Psychopathic Personality (CAPP) and the Triarchic
Psychopathy Model (TriPM).**

*Josanne Van Dongen, Alana Cook,
Simone Viljoen, & Stephen Hart*



Construct validity of the TriPM and CAPP: Relations to conceptual relevant constructs in a community and forensic sample

Josanne (Sanne) van Dongen, PhD
j.d.m.vandongen@law.eur.nl

Alana Cook, Steve Hart, Stefan Bogaerts & Hjalmar van Marle



Outline

- Theoretical background
- Methods of the current studies
- Current results
- Discussion and conclusions

Psychopathic Personality



- Pinel (1962)
- Cleckley (1976): 'The Mask of Sanity'
- McCord and McCord (1964)
- DSM IV
- PCL-R as a 'golden standard'
 - Emphasis on antisocial behaviors
 - Not dynamic

CAPP



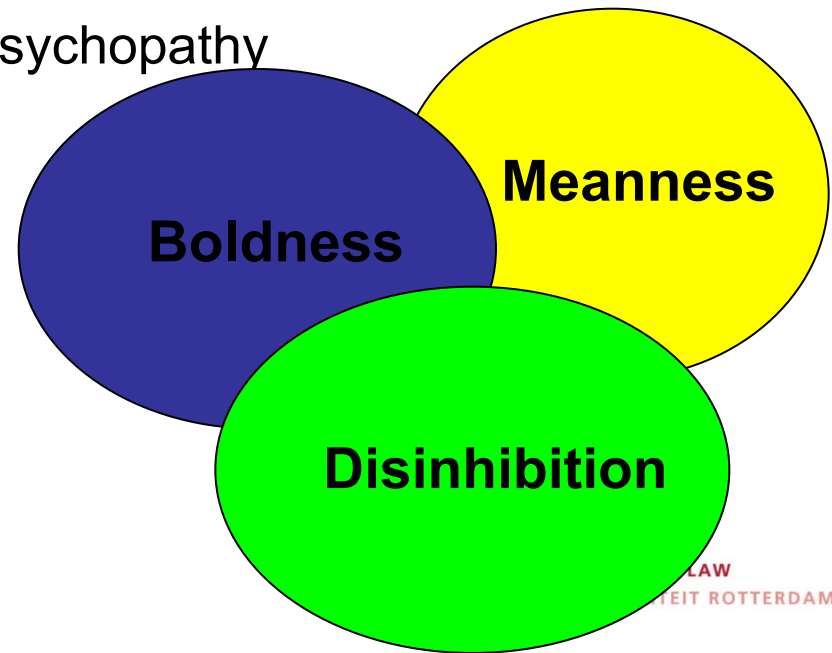
(Cooke, Hart, Logan, Michie, 2004)

Triarchic model of psychopathy



Triarchic Psychopathy Model/Measure (TriPM)

- Cleckley's (1970) psychopathic personality
- Dysfunctional emotional processing
- Captures the heterogeneity of psychopathy



Patrick, Fowles, & Krueger, (2009)

Boldness



- Genetic predisposition of fearlessness
- Social efficacy and dominance
- 'Successful' psychopathic personality
- Neural basis: Weak defensive reactivity in the face of threat; brain's defensive system, incl. amygdala & affiliated structure



Meanness

- Lack of empathy
- Detached attachment
- Cruel behavior
- Neural basis: weak defensive reactivity; empathy related brain structures



Disinhibition

- Deficient inhibitory control
- High risk taking behavior
- Deficient emotion regulation
- Neural basis: difficulties in behavior or emotional control; PFC and ACC



Aim

To assess the usefulness of new conceptualizations of psychoopathy in relation to conceptually related constructs

Relevance

- With respect to new diagnostic criteria and investigation into new conceptualizations it is important to study these new dimensional trait conceptualizations in terms of their construct validity

Methods community sample



- 77 participants (23 males, 54 females)
 - Mean age 21 (range 17-47).

Measures:

- Dutch Triarchic Psychopathy Measure (TriPM; Soe-Agnie, Van Dongen et al., 2012)
- Dutch CAPP-IRF (see for research version full CAPP Hildebrand et al., 2010)
- Dutch Reactive and Proactive Aggression Questionnaire (Cima et al., 2009)
- Dutch Brief Sensation Seeking Scale (Dutch BSSS; Van Dongen et al., 2012)
- Dutch BIS/BAS scales (Franken et al., 2005)

Methods forensic sample



de Kijvelanden
forensisch psychiatrisch centrum

- 82 forensic patients (males)
 - Only 59 with PCL-R scores
- PCL-R (interview based)
- TriPM (self-report)
 - Boldness
 - Meanness
 - Disinhibition
- BSSS (self-report)
- RPQ (self-report)



Results for the community sample

TriPM in relation to other constructs



	RPQtot	RPQre	RPQpro	BSSS	BIS	BAS
TriPMtotal	.49**	.37**	.59**	.57**	-.48**	.35**
Boldness	-.07	-.13	.10	.35**	-.63**	.19
Meanness	.54**	.42**	.63**	.43**	-.36**	.20
Disinhibition	.65**	.59**	.59**	.43**	.06	.38**

** $P < .01$

CAPP in relation to other constructs



	RPQtot	RPQre	RPQpro	BSSS	BIS	BAS
CAPPtot	.45**	.36**	.49**	.32**	-.23*	.22
CAPPself	.40**	.32**	.46**	.22	-.09	.19
CAPPemo	.30**	.19	.44**	.29*	-.37**	.12
CAPPattach	.35*	.18	.33**	.12	-.17	.03
CAPPdom	.33**	.25*	.39**	.15	-.21	.22
CAPPcogn	.40**	.36**	.35**	.30**	-.15	.20
CAPPbeh	.45**	.40**	.41**	.43**	-.20	.26*

* $P < .05$

** $P < .01$



Results for the forensic sample

TriPM relation to PCL-R



	TriPMtotal	Boldness	Meanness	Disinhibition
PCL-Rtotal	.12	-.16	.03	.29*
Interpersonal	-.16	-.19	-.08	-.13
Affective	-.04	-.17	.05	-.02
Lifestyle	.22	-.04	.01	.41**
Antisocial	.27	-.19	.10	.51**

* Sign at .05

** Sign at .001

External correlates/construct validity



	RPQtotal	Reactive aggression	Proactive aggression	BSSS
<u>TriPMtotal</u>	.60**	.59**	.51**	.35**
Boldness	.09	.22*	-.04	.13
Meanness	.61**	.50**	.59**	.41**
Disinhibition	.63**	.59**	.54**	.26*
<u>PCL-Rtotal</u>	.33*	.22	.36**	.02
Interpersonal	.21	.17	.20	-.06
Affective	.08	.01	.13	-.04
Lifestyle	.30*	.22	.32	.03
Antisocial	.43**	.21	.55**	.06

* Sign at .05

** Sign at .001

Discussion



- Inconsistent/consistent findings
 - Community sample
 - Forensic sample
- Method variance
- Usefulness of self-report
 - Self-report and informant seem to converge very well (Ray et al., 2013)
- Dutch TriPM (Soe-Agnie, Van Dongen et al., 2011)

Conclusion



The CAPP and TriPM are promising new models of psychopathic personality

General discussion

- 1. Do we need to revise the ‘golden standard’ model(s) of psychopathic personality?**
- 2. Are self-reports useful? Useful for research?**
- 3. Can we measure psychopathy with ‘measures’ that are not designed to be assessment tools/measures?**