**Construction of the three short version of the Dysfunctional Attitude Scale (DAS)**

Three parallel short version of the DAS were constructed using data from a previous study [17]. In this study 59 inpatients diagnosed with a major depressive disorder had completed form A of the DAS at treatment termination.

The construction of the three versions was based on the finding that the DAS has a one-dimensional structure[[1]](#footnote-1). Items were chosen according to the following algorithm. The corrected item-total correlation and the mean were calculated for each of the 40 DAS items. Then the items were sorted in descending order according to their corrected item-total correlation. Within this rank order items were organised in groups of three items each: The first, the second and the third item were assigned to the first group, the forth, the fifth and the sixth were assigned to the second group and so on. As the DAS consists of 40 items the item with the lowest corrected item-total correlation was omitted. Within each of the resulting 13 item groups the items were sorted in ascending order according to their mean. Subsequently, the items of each group were allocated to the three DAS short forms in a rotational order: In the group with the highest corrected item-total correlations the three items item with the low, the medium and the high mean were allocated to form A, B and C. In the group with the second highest item-total correlations the corresponding three items were allocated to form B, C and A and so on.

This method resulted in three parallel DAS forms (items of form A: 21, 10, 31, 29, 13, 37, 3, 14, 17, 38, 35, 23, 30; form B: 20, 8, 1, 34, 33, 32, 4, 15, 28, 12, 27, 39, 36; form C: 9, 19, 5, 26, 11, 22, 6, 7, 16, 24, 40, 18, 25). Finally, the single items of each short form were arranged in the same order as in the 40-item DAS.

**Procedure for assessing cognitive reactivity. During the procedure participants rated their negative mood three times and completed three short forms of the Dysfunctional Attitude Scale (DAS).**

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DAS 1 +

negative mood rating

mood induction

(memory task)

8 min

 filler task

(sentence completion task)

8 min

DAS 2 +

negative mood rating

DAS 3 +

negative mood rating

introduction to filler task

**Participants not fulfilling criteria of a major depressive episode (MDE) according to the DSM-IV during the 26 weeks of follow-up.**



1. Beevers CG, Strong DR, Meyer B, Pilkonis PA, Miller IW: Efficiently assessing negative cognition in depression: An item response theory analysis of the Dysfunctional Attitude Scale. Psychol Assess 2007;19:199-209. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)