Improving the attitude and knowledge of nurses towards older patients, an international cooperation in research and education

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BACKGROUND
• Worldwide the population of older people increases.
• Older patients suffer multimorbidity, resulting in increased hospitalization.
• More hospital nurses will be in contact with older patients.
• Nurses have a negative attitude towards older individuals.
• Improving the attitude starts with a valid measurement instrument

AIM
• To validate an attitude measuring instrument developed in Australia (2000) and validated in the USA (2009): OPACS.
• To develop and validate an instrument to measure hospital nurses’ knowledge concerning older patients.

METHOD A
Validation attitude instrument (OPACS):
Forward-backward translation and cross-sectional

Figure 1: Translation of instrument

Figure 2: Content validation (n=5)

METHOD B
Development and validation knowledge instrument mixed methods

1. Determine domains of knowledge: literature and 22 interviews
2. Determine items: 2 delphi rounds
3. Pilot study: wording and appropriateness
4. Face validity
5. Expert validity: Content Validity Index (Lynn)
6. Psychometric analysis (n=200)

RESULTS A
OPACS
• Good content validity (I-CVI=1.00) for 6 items of section A and 5 items of section B
• Acceptable content validity (I-CVI≥.78) for 14 items of section A and 22 items of section B
• Degree of relevance for the entire OPACS (S-CVI=.62)
• The OPACS is clear in wording (89.20%) (Table 2)
• The OPACS is appropriate (75.55%)

Table 1: Content Validity Index (n=10)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Index</th>
<th>OPACS section A (item 1-36)</th>
<th>OPACS section B (item 1-50)</th>
<th>OPACS section A (item 1-36) and B (item 1-50)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CVI=</td>
<td>0.61 (0.31)</td>
<td>0.64 (0.25)</td>
<td>0.62 (0.28)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2: Wording and appropriateness (n=10)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measure</th>
<th>OPACS section A (item 1-36)</th>
<th>OPACS section B (item 1-50)</th>
<th>OPACS section A (item 1-36) and B (item 1-50)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CVI=</td>
<td>92.07 (16.63)</td>
<td>87.12 (14.22)</td>
<td>89.20 (15.37)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SD=</td>
<td>73.64 (25.73)</td>
<td>76.92 (22.09)</td>
<td>75.55 (23.06)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CONCLUSION A
• The OPACS has good clarity of wording and good appropriateness for measuring attitude.
• Content validity score is low which makes the current Dutch version not ready for use.
• Knowledge instrument: analysis is ongoing

OTHER RESULTS
• Participation of 3 hospitals in the research project
• International cooperation: 2 universities in the USA and 1 in South Africa
• International teacher and student exchange
• Participation of 30 bachelor and 3 master students in the research project
• Development of a summerschool Healthy Aging (July 2013, 2014)
• Development of an online course: The Aging Society (master level) (March 2014)
• Development of a toolkit for hospitals nurses
• Development of a guideline for hospital managers to improve nurse’s knowledge and attitude
• Development of a framework for Dutch nursing curriculae concerning care for older individuals

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