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The Spanish adaptation of the Palliative Performance Scale (version 2) among cancer patients at the end of life: Psychometric Properties

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Abstract

Background: Palliative Performance Scale (PPS) is a reliable tool to assess performance status in cancer patients receiving palliative care. Spanish validated and culturally adapted tools are needed.

Objectives:

To develop PPS translation and cross-cultural adaptation into Spanish. To assess its psychometric properties.

Design: Translation process with cross-cultural adaptation to produce Spanish Palliative Performance Scale (PPS-SPANISH).

Settings: Palliative Care Team at one University hospital in Spain.

Participants: 15 advanced cancer patients (60 assessments) were included for PPS translation and validation and 250 patients for cross-sectional analysis. All participants were recruited at oncology ward, emergency area and outpatient clinic by palliative care team professionals. Informed consent was given. Average age was 66.4 ± 13 (60% men).

Methods: Process designed in three steps. Step 1, PPS translation and reverse translation into Spanish (3 bilingual speakers). Linguistic complexity measurement. Step 2, readability and intelligibility assessment. Step 3, a pilot study was conducted to assess test-retest reliability followed by a cross sectional study to measure internal consistency. Inclusion criteria were the same for two samples. Demographic data were also analyzed by descriptive statistics.

Results: Following cultural, linguistic and grammatical adaptation, PPS-SPANISH was readable and reliable. The analysis of the test-retest reliability after 48 hours showed intra-class correlations >0.60 . Cronbach's alpha coefficient was 0.99 (0.988 to 0.992). There was high agreement with other functional assessment tools (Barthel Index and Karnofsky Performance Status Index).

Conclusions: PPS-SPANISH showed reliability and validity and it is suitable to assess performance status in cancer patients receiving palliative care.

Keywords:

Cancer; Clinical Tools; Nursing Practice; Palliative care; Palliative Performance Scale; Spanish; Validation Studies

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