

Session 4.6

Clinical Track

Abstract Title:

Development of a Tool to Estimate Nursing Diagnoses Accuracy

Presenters:

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Intended Audiences:

Educators, Clinicians

Areas of Focus:

Research, Use in Practice, Use in Education

Research Format:

For Research Reports

PURPOSE: The accuracy of a variable consists of its capacity to actually represent what it was meant to represent. The conceptual definition of diagnosis accuracy is based on the presupposition that there is a wide variety of possible diagnosis in clinical situations, besides those diagnoses that are highly accurate¹. The purpose of this study was to develop an instrument to estimate the accuracy of nursing diagnoses from the written data of patient assessment.

METHODS: A quantitative study of methodological development was carried out in 3 phases: theoretical, empirical and analytical. In the theoretical phase, the definition of accuracy of nursing diagnosis and the items of the instrument were shaped and subjected to content validation and pilot testing. In the empirical phase, the instrument defined previously was applied by nurses who had large experience with nursing diagnosis, aiming at estimating the validity and reliability of the instrument in the analytical phase. The instrument was named Escala de Acurácia de Diagnóstico de Enfermagem - EADE, and was structured according to the concept that the accuracy of a nursing diagnosis is the judgment of a rater in relation to the degree of relevance, specificity and coherence of the existing cues for the diagnosis. The instrument consisted of 4 items: Presence of cues (patients' manifestations representing evidences, vestiges, signals, indications or characteristics of a nursing diagnosis - item graded as "yes" or "no"); Relevance of the cue (the property of a cue being important as an indicator of a nursing diagnosis - item graded as "high/moderate" or "low"); Specificity of the cue (the property of a cue being proper and distinctive of a nursing diagnosis - item graded as "high/moderate" or "low/nil"); Coherence of the cue (the property of a clue being consistent with the amount of information available - item graded as "high/moderate" or "low/nil").

FINDINGS: As an indicative of the EADE validity, the obtained results with the Generalized Equations Estimate (GEE) confirmed the hypothesis that the items of the scale are important to predict the most accurate diagnosis: Relevance (OR 1.01 IC 95% [0.23 – 4.35], p = 0.994); Specificity (OR 3.41 IC 95% [0.78 – 14.92], p = 0.103); Coherence (OR 8.05 IC 95% [2.10 – 30.93], p = 0.002). The obtained Odds Ratio values by means of the GEE analysis, were used to attribute numeric values to the items of EADE, intending to generate final scores within an ordinal scale that expresses the character of the variable continuity. The generated scale of accuracy presented 8 answering-levels from 0 to 12.5.

DISCUSSION: The Kappa general coefficients have shown that the concordance among the experts was low: they varied from 0.242 (specificity) to 0.329 (presence).

CONCLUSION: Further studies are needed to analyze the effect of the numeric value applied to each item on validity and reliability estimates.

Citations:

Reference:

Lunney M. Pensamento crítico e diagnósticos de enfermagem: estudos de caso e análises. Trad. de Marques, Rômulo. Porto Alegre: Artmed; 2004.