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Validation of the Medication Management Ability Assessment Tool (MMAA) for the Portuguese Older Adults

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Abstract

This study aimed to validate the Medication Management Ability Assessment (MMAA) and determine the level of functional ability of older adults to execute a simulated therapeutic regimen, understand their main limitations when facing alterations and determine the relationship between the functional ability to manage medication and cognitive function.

The adaptation was initiated with the translation and back-translation by four independent bilingual experts. The content elaboration was developed through an external experts meeting, with a screening of concepts and constructs of the test. The pilot study of MMAA-PT was run on a sample of 30 Portuguese community-dwelling older adults. Three additional instruments were used to characterize the sample and to convergent analysis, the Mini-Mental State Examination (MMSE), the Clock Drawing Test (CDT), and the Instrumental Activities of Daily Living (IADL). Descriptive analysis, correlations, and internal consistency were calculated using the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS).

Of the 100 subjects, 70% were women, and the general age was 75.64 (±6.60) [65.00–96.00] years. The MMAA-PT mean score was 10.75 (±2.52) [3.00–15.00]. The convergent validity of the MMAA-PT was verified using the Spearman coefficient, with ROH20 and CDT. It obtained a *p* value of 0.44 in both correlations (*p* > 0.005). Being, therefore, non-significant correlations between the MMAA-PT and the two tests. Also, moderate correlations are the MMAA-PT are associated with better cognitive function.

A European Portuguese version of the MMAA with acceptable convergent validity was obtained, which can be used in future research and clinical settings, namely in the medication-reconciliation process.

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