

Abstract

Objective: To evaluate the psychometric properties of the Pieper-Zulkowski Pressure Ulcer Knowledge Test (PZ-PUKT) in Iranian nurses.

Methods: The present study is a methodological study. A convenience sample of 323 nurses and 161 nursing students from Ardabil University of Medical Sciences, Ardabil, Iran were entered to the study. To determine the psychometric properties of the PZ-PUKT content and differential validity, item analysis (difficulty and discriminative indices), internal consistency and test-retest were performed. SPSS ver.15 was used for data analysis.

Results: As the total score of PZ-PUKT in critical care nurses (39.84 ± 7.10) was higher compared to general nurses (37.01 ± 8.47) and nursing students (24.59 ± 12.95) the differential validity of the tool was confirmed. The mean difficulty indices of questions with and without considering the option of "I don't know" were 0.53 and 0.65, respectively. Also they were 0.27 and 0.13 for discriminative index. Cronbach's alpha coefficient was 0.92 for the 72-item PZ-PUKT. Correlation coefficient between test and retest in 30 nurses was 0.81.

Conclusions: This study showed that Persian version of PZ-PUKT is valid and reliable for using in Iranian society. It can be used in education and research to assess nurses' knowledge as well as to evaluate the effectiveness of training programs on prevention and care of pressure ulcers.

Key words: Pressure Ulcer, knowledge, Pieper-Zulkowski Pressure Ulcer Knowledge Test