

Translation, adaption, and validation of the Self-Efficacy in Palliative Care scale (SEPC) for use in Swedish healthcare settings

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Background

Healthcare professionals' lack of confidence is a barrier when delivering palliative care. One valid and reliable instrument to measure healthcare professionals' confidence to provide palliative care is the Self-efficacy in Palliative Care scale (SEPC). For an instrument to be relevant and acceptable in the target country, cultural adaption is necessary.

Aim of the study

This study aimed to translate, culturally adapt, and validate the SEPC-scale for use in Swedish healthcare settings.

Methods

Forward and back translation, an expert panel (n=6) with the calculation of Content validity index (CVI) and modified kappa statistics, along with cognitive interviews with healthcare professionals (n=10), were used as methods. A Swedish SEPC-scale was produced through the forward and back-translation in step 1. The experts and healthcare professionals evaluated the scale based on relevance, understandability, clarity, and sensitivity in steps 2 and 3. Modifications were managed continuously during the process.

Results

The Swedish SEPC-scale was relevant based on the experts' assessment and I-CVI (Item-CVI) calculation, but modifications were necessary to assure understandability and clarity in the Swedish context.

Healthcare professionals' evaluations showed comparable results; they agreed on relevance and that some items needed to be adjusted to be understandable and clear for several settings and professions. The instrument could be sensitive due to the content of death and dying but was vital for healthcare professionals to ponder

Conclusions and implications

The Swedish SEPC-scale is considered to be a valid instrument to measure healthcare professionals' confidence in palliative care, aimed for various professions, settings and diagnoses in Swedish healthcare settings.