The Development and Testing of the ACP Communicating Confidence Scale
Chiu-Chu Lin¹, Jui-O Chen²,³

¹ Professor, College of Nursing, Kaohsiung Medical University, Kaohsiung, Taiwan
² Assistant professor, Department of Nursing, Tajen University, Pingtung, Taiwan
³ Doctor Candidate, College of Nursing, Kaohsiung Medical University, Kaohsiung, Taiwan

The prevalence and incidence of end stage renal disease (ESRD) in Taiwan is the highest in the world.
Patients with ESRD need to depend on hemodialysis of life-sustaining treatment for survival.
During hemodialysis, patients may encounter critical conditions and even receive emergency treatment. The mortality rate is around 60%, and the overall survival is less than 6 months.
If health professionals can initiate advance care planning (ACP) with patients and assist them in signing advance directives (AD), patients may avoid facing medical futility.
The overall rate of AD completion in Taiwan (2.5%) is lower than western countries (10 to 20%).
Studies showed that the most crucial factor of hindering ACP is that healthcare professionals lack communication confidence to talk about ACP with patients.

Background

The purpose of this study was to develop and testing an ACP Communicating Confidence Scale used to measure the confidence of the nurses working in the clinical setting.

Aim

The EFA result suggests a 1-factor model accounting for 79.3% of total variance. The proposed 1-factor model was confirmed by CFA (SRMR=.03, CFI =.92, TLI=.90). Cross-validation provided further evidence for the construct validity of the ACP communicating confidence scale with 12 items (SRMR=.03, CFI =.92, TLI=.91). Cronbach’s alpha coefficient of this new scale was .98. Test-retest reliability was .87 (N=45)

Methods

Nurses (N = 467) recruited from northern, central and southern Taiwan were divided into two samples. Data collection was from July 2019–September 2019. Sample 1 (N=250) was used for explanatory factor analysis (EFA) and confirmatory factor analysis (CFA), Sample 2 (N=217) was used for cross-validation.

Results

Psychometric properties indicate that the newly formulated ACP Communicating Confidence Scale is a valid and reliable tool.
Nurse manager may adopt this tool to assess nurses’ level of communicating confidence from which identify the nurses having low confidence, and further establish interventions to enhance their confidence to initiate the ACP with patients in the clinical setting.

Conclusion/ Implications for practice

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS
This study was funded by National Science Council, Taiwan (MOST 107-2314-B-037-029-MY3).

Email: kmulcc@gmail.com