1. Background
Competence in nursing...is based on the ability to integrate knowledge from all disciplines in order to identify the problem, understand the theory related to the problem and respond appropriately with treatment and care of the patient, as well as then applying all this integrated knowledge in a practical event or situation in a real-life setting or simulation” (Nursing Education Stakeholders Group, 2012).

2. Methodology
Methodological studies address the development and testing of measuring instruments (Polit & Beck, 2012).

2.1 Instrument development

2.2 Sample and method
Twenty purposively selected respondents each assessed 15 student nurses’ competence during participation in a standardised patient simulation activity via video footage with the developed assessment instrument.

2.3 Findings from pilot
The pilot consisted of seven nurse educators that identified:
- poor sound and poor visibility of video footage; and
- insufficient training in the use of the instrument.

2.4 Data analysis
A biostatistician did the inferential analysis of the data.

3. Results

4. Recommendations
- Nurse educators and preceptors should use the assessment instrument to determine the competence of student nurses.
- Test the psychometric properties of the assessment instrument in other contexts.
- Determine the construct validity of the assessment instrument.

5. Contribution
- A competence assessment instrument with good psychometric properties.
- An assessment instrument that is appropriate for identifying learning needs of students and summative assessment.

References

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