

Spanish cross-cultural translation of the Performance Assessment of Self-Care (PASS)

Luz Muñiz¹, Norma Báez¹, María Bidot¹, Margarita González¹, Fay Mena¹, Dyhalma Irizarry¹, Margo Holmes²

¹*University of Puerto Rico, Medical Sciences Campus, San Juan, Puerto Rico, United States,*

²*University of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, United States*

Introduction: Assessment is an essential part of health services in terms of health status and quality of life. Assessment in the elderly of ADLs is of key importance, since B&IADL are essential foundations for social participation in the community and a key element to maintain health. Disability represents a major adverse outcome of both aging and chronic illness that can impact performance of B&IADL. Assessment of ADL status is particularly critical for older people, especially those with one or more chronic conditions. Although a large diversity of tools are available to assess ADLs, there are no tools developed in Spanish that are validated for this population. Latinos are the largest ethnic group that are underserved by the health care system. (Hobbs F, Stoops N, 2002). Also the proportion of older adults of 60 years and above has increased exponentially over the last decades in the United States (US Census Bureau, 2003). The validity of assessment can be affected when a tool, developed and validated for a specific population and culture, is used in another culture, due to translation difficulties, irrelevancy of item contents, and inappropriate norm scores, among others. (Artiola L et al, 2005; Matías-Carrelo et al, 2003; Hui et al, 1985).

Objective: The main goal of this research was to translate, culturally adapt and pilot test the assessment tool: Performance Assessment of Self-Care Skills into Spanish, with a cross-cultural equivalence to the English version.

Methods: A cross-cultural methodological research design was used; based in a five phase model: 1) Translation of the PASS; 2) Revision of translated version; 3) Blind back-translation; 4) Cross-cultural equivalence review and 5) Pilot-validation of experimental tool.

Results: Results evidence that the tool has excellent cultural and Spanish translation validity.

Conclusion and Contribution: ADL status is an important component of comprehensive health assessment and a clinical tool to guide health intervention planning, especially for people with physical, mental and cognitive impairments. The NIH recommends assessment of both B&IADL status as critical element of comprehensive geriatric assessment. This translated and culturally adapted validated assessment is useful in understanding how the elderly is actually performing so that interventions can be designed to optimize independence and social participation.