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LINGUISTIC AND CULTURAL VALIDATION OF THE AMBULANCE NURSE COMPETENCE SCALE (ANCS) IN THE ITALIAN CONTEXT

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What is competence?

How can we define competence?

Why is it important to define competences?

How can we define Competence?

The term "Competence" comes from the Latin verb competere.
(from e petere "to ask. to direct oneself to"; to be competent; expertise. skill.
cognition. experience in a field. In a given professional activity
(Devoto-Oli Dictionary.2015)

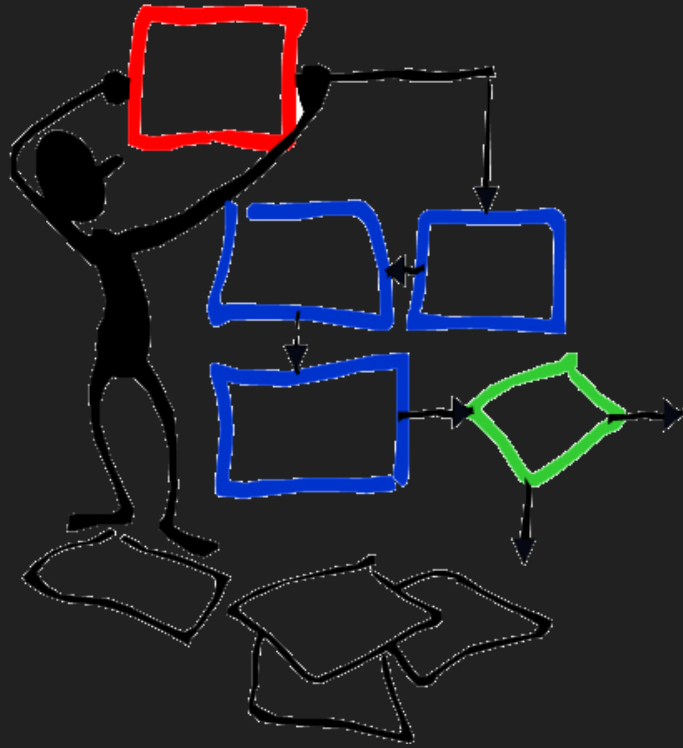*Centro di Eccellenza per la Cultura e la Ricerca Infermieristica*

What about incompetence?

The term 'incompetence' means being incompetent. lacking the qualities and prerogatives required for a given professional activity. (Devoto-Oli Dictionary.2015)

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Definition of nursing competence

«Competence is a set of complex actions whose result is to guide nursing action in professional practice, and which can be evaluated through performance»

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In recent decades, there have been multiple changes, the competences of nurses have advanced. for this reason, the studies on competences have focused on investigating how to best define competences and how they are acquired and what factors contribute to influencing them.

COMPETENCE

EXPERIENCE — KNOWLEDGE — SKILLLS — BEHAVIOR — PERFORMANCE — GOALS

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Aim of the study

The aim of this thesis was to assess the self-declared professional competences of ambulance nurses and nurses working in pre-hospital care.

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Methods

This study used an Ambulance Competence Nurce Scale (ANCS) questionnaire. consisting of 43 items comprising 8 factors: Nursing; Values-based nursing; Medical technical assistance; Care environment – community; Care environment - serious events; Leadership (leadership management); Supervision and professional approach (Supervision and professional conduct); Research and development. The sample included 131 ambulance nurses based in Lazio and Emilia-Romagna.

Results

The results analyzed showed that pre-hospital care nurses have a good level of competence in particular in the dimensions Medical Technical Assistance (78.58) and Event-serious care assistance (78.35). while as regards skills those who obtained a lower score was the Research and Development dimension (70.36).

Table 1: Demographics data of the Participants

Results

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Gender	Frequency	Percent
F	63	48.1
M	68	51.9
Post-basic training		
Other Degree	47	35.9
Master's Degree	26	19.8
Master 1° life.	53	40.5
Master 2° life.	5	3.8
Workplace		
Operations Centre	22	16.8
Private (implemented machines. supports. etc...)	4	3.1
Territory	105	80.2
In which REGION do you work		
Emilia Romagna	21	16.0
Latium	110	84.0
What type of vehicle he works on		
ALS	15	11.5
Auto Medical	30	22.9
BLS	78	59.5
Air Ambulance	8	6.1
He is satisfied with his work		
Enough	58	44.3
A lot	46	35.1
By no means	2	1.5
Little	25	19.1
How competent he feels in his work		
Enough	84	64.1
A lot	41	31.3
Little	6	4.6
Total	131	100.0

Years Profession	N	%
1 - 10	36	27.5
11 - 20	40	30.5
21 - 30	41	31.3
31 - 40	14	10.7
Practice Years	N	%
1 - 10	74	56.5
11 - 20	33	25.2
21 - 30	21	16.0
31 - 40	3	2.3
Total	131	100.0

Table 2: Years of Practice of Participants

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Results

Average size of ANCS								
	Average ANCS Factors	Nursing	Values-based nursing	Medical technical assistance	Care environment - community	Care environment - serious events	Leadership (leadership management)	Supervision and professional approach (Supervision and professional conduct)	Research and development
Mean	75.02	76.33	72.54	78.58	78.35	73.68	76.12	74.07	70.36
SD	12.07	11.19	12.03	13.43	13.09	13.77	13.65	14.12	14.99

	Average ANCS													
	1 - 10			11 - 20			21 - 30			31 - 40			Total		
	Mean	N	SD	Mean	N	SD	Mean	N	SD	Mean	N	SD	Mean	N	SD
Years Profession	76.55	36	11.87	75.39	40	9.88	76.12	41	12.43	66.84	14	15.03	75.02	131	12.07
Practice Years	75.41	74	10.63	75.97	33	11.80	76.08	21	11.88	47.54	3	23.26	75.02	131	12.07

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Results

		Exploratory factor analysis			
		F1	2	3	4
Factor 1	1	ANCS14	0.753			
	2	ANCS15	0.716			
	3	ANCS22	0.714			
	4	ANCS16	0.686			
	5	ANCS29	0.649			
	6	ANCS30	0.630			
	7	ANCS18	0.624			
	8	ANCS26	0.621			
	9	ANCS20	0.601			
	10	ANCS28	0.593			
	11	ANCS17	0.581			
	12	ANCS19	0.554			
	13	ANCS3	0.520			
	14	ANCS21	0.508			
	15	ANCS1	0.502			
Factor 2	16	ANCS40		0.735		
	17	ANCS37		0.725		
	18	ANCS38		0.712		
	19	ANCS34		0.697		
	20	ANCS39		0.689		
	21	ANCS33		0.647		
	22	ANCS41		0.647		
	23	ANCS42		0.645		
	24	ANCS43		0.634		
	25	ANCS35		0.614		
	26	ANCS36		0.574		
	27	ANCS31		0.573		
	28	ANCS32		0.527		
	29	ANCS24		0.440		
Factor 3	30	ANCS9			0.691	
	31	ANCS6			0.691	
	32	ANCS8			0.685	
	33	ANCS4			0.682	
	34	ANCS2			0.632	
	35	ANCS7			0.625	
	36	ANCS10			0.566	
	37	ANCS11			0.566	
	38	ANCS5			0.517	
Factor 4	39	ANCS27				0.719
	40	ANCS12				0.640
	41	ANCS25				0.512
	42	ANCS23				0.491
	43	ANCS13				0.448

Discussion

There were also many factors that influenced the skill set required within the ambulance service. Today. pre-hospital care is considered a significant part of a patient's total care experience and therefore it is essential to consider that pre-hospital health care workers have the same level of competence as staff working in hospitals;

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Conclusions

The ANC scale has been tested for the first time in Italy and has shown a good construct validity. surely it can be used in the future for further studies investigating the competences of pre-hospital care nurses.

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