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**Titel:**

**Translation and psychometric assessment of the Empathy  
Construct Rating Scale**

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## Abstract

### Translation and psychometric assessment of the Empathy Construct Rating Scale

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#### Abstract

**Background:** Empathy has a key role in achieving nursing objectives and improves the quality of the relationship between the patients and nurses, the quality of care and both parties' satisfaction. The complexity of this concept has created challenges in its measurement. Given the lack of a valid and reliable tool in Persian, this study was conducted to translate the Empathy Construct Rating Scale and assess its psychometric features.

**Methods:** This methodological study was conducted after corresponding with the designers and obtaining their permission for translating the scale based on the Wild model (2005). The face, content and construct validities of the scale were assessed. Exploratory factor analysis was performed with 840 questionnaires filled out by nurses, head nurses and patients in teaching hospitals, who were selected pairwise by convenience sampling. The reliability of the scale was determined using the Interclass Correlation Coefficient and Cronbach's alpha.

**Results:** At the end of the translation phase, two forms of the scale were developed: The 'nurse' form for self-report and the 'others' form for assessment by another person. At the end of the psychometric assessment, 25 items of the nurse form and 31 items of the others form were removed. Then, 59 items of the nurse form and 53 items of the others form were placed in two factors, namely empathetic behaviors and non-empathetic behaviors. Cronbach's alpha of the whole scale was calculated as 0.966 for the nurse form and 0.957 for the others form.

**Conclusions:** The development of two user-specific forms that are also brief, reliable and valid facilitates the application of these tools, especially in clinical research. These tools can help assess nurses' empathetic performance and be used for nursing management and the improvement of empathetic care.

**Keywords:** Empathy, Empathy Construct Rating Scale, Psychometrics, Translations