

Current Updates in Gerontology

Review Report

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Article Title: Constructing and Validating the Intervention Practices and Behaviors Scale for Preventing Falls among the Institutionalized Elderly

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Review Status: Revision Required

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Review Report

Falls among older adults and strategies to prevent them is one of the most important subjects in the Gerontology literature. Authors have approached it bringing out a gap that once filled will help practioners to perform falls prevention program more effective.

Therefore, I consider this paper very contributive and relevant, however, it needs some adjustments.

Authors have written extensive paragraphs which compromise reading flow. There are many ideas separated by commas. Also, there are parts of the text that were written in very informal style. I strongly recommend improving writing and reviewing the English Language form.

Authors have shown psychometric features and subsequent results that explain inclusions and exclusion of items in the instrument. They should have given us the correlation matrix of all items or at least for item in each domain, because very high correlation coefficient (>0.9) can indicate that the items mean exactly the same thing. Therefore, they should remove items very correlated in order to construct a shorter and more objective instrument. Co-linearity tests also will help to make those decisions.

In introduction, development of this instrument should have been better justified. Authors should cited references that showed whether and how caregivers' behavior impact falls among elderly, for example.

Authors should have emphasized that the instrument is applicable among formal elderly's caregivers.

In discussion, it is very polite to mention limitations of this instrument. For example, study's sample was composed only by women caregivers. What impact we should expect in study's results or in the application of this instrument in another population?

I have read this submission. I believe that I have an appropriate level of expertise to confirm that it is of an acceptable scientific standard, however I have significant reservations, as outlined above.