

Knowledge and Attitudes toward Hospice and Palliative Care: Instrument Validation among Emergency Providers

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INTRODUCTION

- About half of dying patients visit the Emergency Department (ED) in the last month of life
- The knowledge and attitudes of providers towards hospice and palliative care may influence providers' decisions to engage patients and their caregivers in goals of care discussions and hospice and palliative care referrals.
- No survey instrument directly measures emergency providers' knowledge and attitudes towards hospice and palliative care

PURPOSE

- To re-validate the knowledge and attitude towards hospice and palliative care (KAHP) scale and assess the scale's latent constructs among emergency providers

METHODS

- ### Scale Development
- The items in the scale were from Bradley et al.'s 10-item survey
 - We scored each item on a five-point Likert scale (1-strongly disagree & 5-strongly agree).
 - Scale scores ranged from were 10 and 50, respectively
- ### Study Population
- US Emergency providers in 34 ED across 14 states, enrolled in the PRIM-ER Study

METHODS

- ### Content Analysis
- The proportion of the agreement on relevance generated the Cohen's kappa value
 - Item Content Validity Index was computed using the mean agreement proportion score
 - The scale CVI was computed by estimating the mean proportion of relevant items of the scale
- ### Item Analysis
- The scale's internal consistency (Cronbach alpha) assessed the extent to which the scale measures what it intends to measure
- ### Exploratory Factor Analysis
- Using ED provider data, the existence of underlying constructs was explored
- ### Confirmatory Factor Analysis
- The model fit of the underlying constructs was confirmed using appropriate indices

RESULTS

Variable	N (%)
Age Categories	
Less than 30 years	70 (23.8)
30 – 39 years	116 (39.5)
40 – 49 years	51 (17.3)
50 – 59 years	47 (16.0)
60 years and older	10 (3.4)
Sex	
Male	89 (30.3)
Female	205 (69.7)
Race/Ethnicity	
Non-Hispanic White	200 (68.0)
Non-Hispanic Black	17 (5.8)
Hispanic	14 (4.8)
Other Races	63 (21.4)

The KAHP scale is a **ten-item scale** scored from **10 to 50**

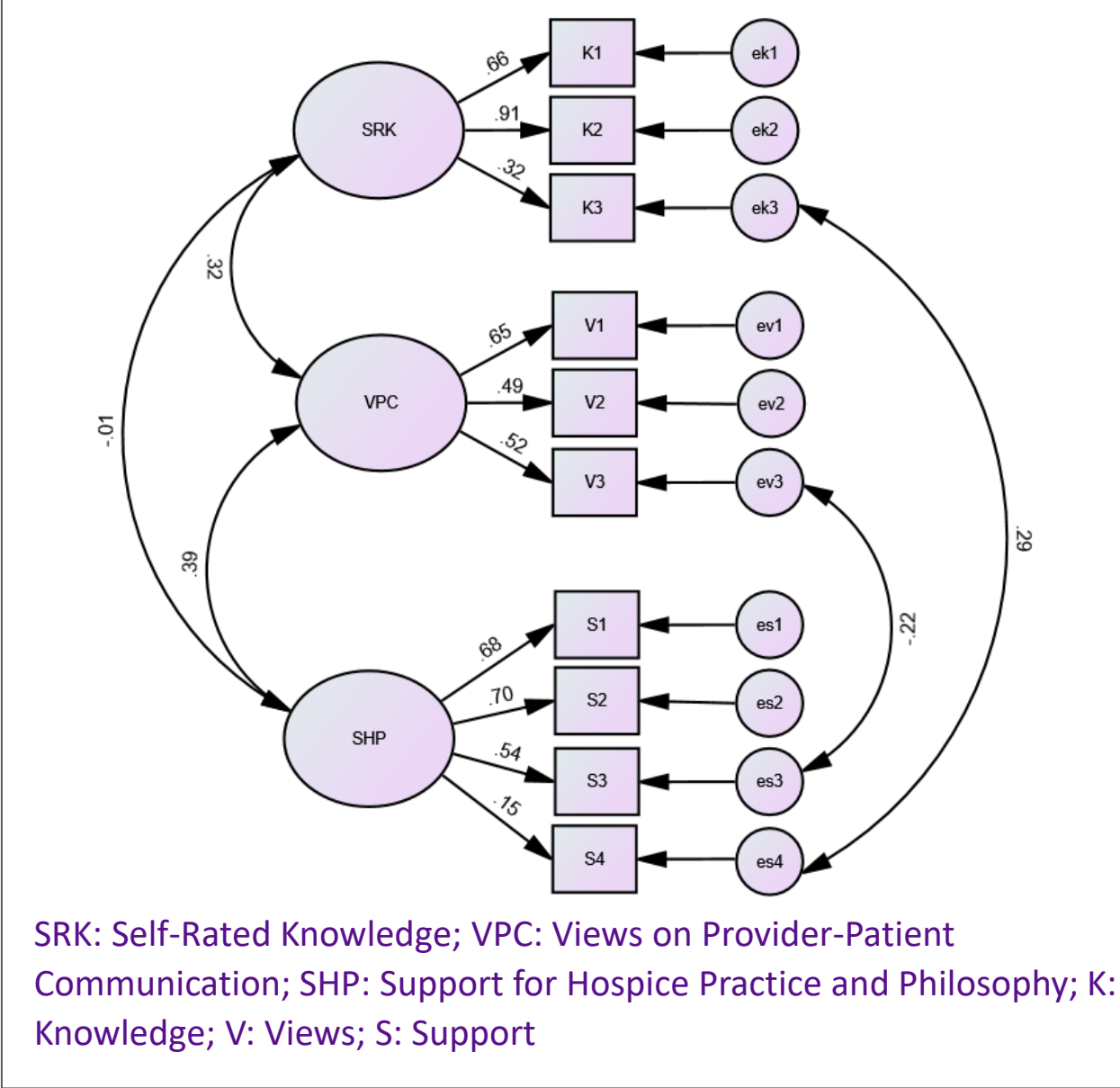
The **Item and Scale Content Validity Indices** were each **0.91**

The reliability (**Cronbach alpha**) of the scale was **0.64**

The exploratory factor analysis identified three constructs: **self-rated knowledge, support for hospice and palliative care practice, and views on provider-patient communication.**



RESULTS



CONCLUSION

- The KAHP scale is a validated instrument that is suitable for assessing knowledge and attitude variations toward interventions designed to improve hospice and palliative care practice among emergency providers.

REFERENCES

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Summary of the confirmatory factor analysis of the items in the Knowledge and Attitude towards Hospice and Palliative Care (KAHP) Scale

Domain	Items	Estimates	Domain	Items	Estimates	Domain	Items	Estimates
Self-Rated Knowledge (SRK)	K1	0.66	Views on Patient-Provider Communication (VPC)	V1	0.65	Support for Hospice Practice and Philosophy (SHP)	S1	0.68
	K2	0.91		V2	0.49		S2	0.70
	K3	0.32		V3	0.52		S3	0.54
				S4	0.15			
Model Diagnostics								
Parameter	Value	Interpretation	Parameter	Value	Interpretation	Parameter	Value	Interpretation
CMIN=	49.280	-	NFI=	0.901	Adequate	RMSEA=	0.047	Good
DF=	30	-	TLI=	0.936	Adequate	90%CI=	0.021 – 0.070	Good
PCMIN/DF=	1.643	Good	CFI=	0.958	Good	P CLOSE=	0.561	Good