

## Plan Overview

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*A Data Management Plan created using DMPTool*

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**Title:** “Quality Nursing Care Scale”: Translation and psychometric validation for the Portuguese population

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**Template:** Digital Curation Centre

### **Project abstract:**

The present scientific study aims to culturally and linguistically adapt the Quality Nursing Care Scale (QNCS) for the Portuguese population (Liu, Aunguroch, Gunawan, Sha, & Shi, 2021). This instrument aims to assess the quality of nursing care (QNC) from the nurse's perspective.

QNC is understood as the level of excellence of care provided by nurses in several dimensions: spiritual, mental, social, physical, and environmental. As the nurse is the health professional permanently involved in the transition related to the health-disease process, it is understood how essential their intervention is in promoting QNC.

The main objective of providing nursing care is, therefore, to achieve excellence. As such, to satisfy the needs and meet the expectations of their clients, it is important that nurses maintain or improve their intervention through self-evaluation of their practices. However, the QNC concept is mostly assessed from the perspective of the client and not from their providers, which highlights a gap in knowledge regarding nurses' perception of the quality and safety of their practice. Considering that reflection and self-evaluation contribute to the continuous improvement of the quality of care, it is possible to argue that nurses' perception of the care they provide is of enormous relevance. It allows them not only to analyze their current practice, but also to understand what the gold standard of the intervention would be.

Therefore, as there is no scale that allows the assessment of QNC from the perspective of nurses, validated and adapted to the Portuguese cultural context, this proves to be an opportunity to fill this gap.

Thus, the specific objectives of the study are: 1) translating the QNCS into Portuguese; 2) adapt the QNCS to the Portuguese cultural context; and 3) analyze the psychometric characteristics of the QNCS.

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## **“Quality Nursing Care Scale”: Translation and psychometric validation for the Portuguese population**

The data collection instrument to be used is the Quality Nursing Care Scale (QNCS) (Liu, Aunguroch, Gunawan, Sha, & Shi, 2021), a scale that aims to assess the quality of nursing care from the perspective of nurses. In this study, the instrument to be used will therefore result from the adapted version of the QNCS into Portuguese, translated by professionals. It is a self-completion questionnaire (QNCS), divided into two parts, the application of which has already been requested and authorized by the scale's authors.

The first page will include a short introduction to the study, which will provide some information to the potential participant, such as: information about the main researcher, request for cooperation in filling out the questionnaire, reason for applying it, general short presentation of its nature, name of the educational institution, formal declaration of confidentiality of responses and the anonymity of the questionnaire.

In the first section (Part A), we will seek to apply a translated version of the QNCS, presenting the 48 items of the instrument, divided into six dimensions: task-oriented interventions, team characteristics, physical environment, person-oriented interventions, customer preconditions and results (free translation of QNCS dimensions). This part of the questionnaire will be presented on a Likert-type scale. The items will be presented in the form of a statement with five alternative answers: 1 – completely disagree; 2 – disagree; 3 – I neither agree nor disagree; 4 – I agree; 5 – I completely agree.

In the second (Part B), sociodemographic data will be requested to participants – age, gender, academic qualifications, professional category, length of professional practice, hospital and service in which they work.

An online questionnaire built on Google Forms platform will be used. It will be accessed through a hyperlink which will be shared through institutional communication channels or by a QRCode printed in informational posters displayed in the units and services of the hospital hosting the study.

The data will be organized into tables and stored in .xlsx files that can be read using MS Office Excel, LibreOffice Calc or other software.

The study will be submitted for authorization by the Ethics Committee of the hospital institution hosting the study. Nurses' participation will be conditioned on obtaining free and informed consent.

The raw research data will be managed by the responsible researchers, who may allow it to be shared and used by third parties. All bibliographic references and/or data and information to be used must give credit to the authors of the scientific article or dissertation.

The databases will be stored in .xlsx files and stored via "Google Drive" in the institutional account of the researcher responsible for data management. Databases will be backed up on two computers belonging to the responsible researchers and on external hard drives.

Access to the databases will be done using a password to access the files and computers of the researchers responsible for managing the data. All information that could allow participants to be identified will not be disclosed. In the future, if the data is shared, it will be anonymized.

The data will be stored for at least ten years on “Google Drive”, personal computers and external hard drives. Data may be shared upon request to researchers responsible for data management. Data will only be shared after the work resulting from this research is accepted for publication or published.

In addition to the data to be preserved in “Google Drive”, on researchers' computers and hard drives for at least ten years, the results obtained through data analysis will be compiled in the form of reports, scientific articles, book chapters and communications made available for public access.

The results of this investigation will be used in the preparation of research articles for submission to journals. They will also be presented at national and international scientific events.

Reports, scientific articles, book chapters and communications can be accessed from the institutional repository of Escola Superior de Enfermagem de Lisboa (<https://comum.rcaap.pt/handle/10400.26/36992>).

After publication of the research results, access to data may be granted as long as a formal request is made to the researchers responsible for data management. The shared data may be used through a cooperation agreement for academic and scientific purposes or through referenced citations.

There are no restrictions on data sharing. All bibliographic references and/or data and information used must give credit to the authors of the scientific article in which the study was published.

The data will be collected by Nurse Catarina Antunes, a master's student in Nursing Management at Escola Superior de Enfermagem de Lisboa. The production of meta data will be supervised by Professor Paulo Cruchinho, who will be responsible for storing, archiving and sharing study data.

In order to completely fulfil the plan, it is necessary to preserve “Google Drive” through the institutional account provided by the Escola Superior de Enfermagem de Lisboa (Portugal). Furthermore, financing of publication fees is required for the publication of scientific articles.

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