

## **PP 16 Translation and validation of Patient Practitioner Orientation Scale into Tamil Language**

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**INTRODUCTION:** The doctor–patient relationship is a product of the attitudes and orientations that the two participants bring to it. Patient–Practitioner Orientation Scale(PPOS), measures the roles that doctors and patients believe each should play in the course of their interaction. The questionnaire is in English and as it cannot be understood by Tamil speaking individuals, with the permission of the author Professor E Krupet the tool was obtained and the preliminary steps are being taken to validate this tool.

**OBJECTIVES:** To identify a validated and reliable tool to assess patient centeredness in Tamil language.

**METHODS:** This study is done as part of Collaboration with the University of Peradeniya where the Patient Practitioner Orientation Scale (PPOS) is being translated and validated as a tool into Sinhala. The Tamil translation is being carried out at the department of Paediatrics, University of Jaffna. The PPOS which is in English was translated into Tamil. Content understanding of the translated version was tested in a sample of healthy adults mainly doctors, medical students, nurses and allied health staff as a pilot study. The sharing and caring attitudes were measured on the population.

**RESULTS:** The pilot study was done in 102 people. Mean age for the population was  $30.16 \pm$  years and the male female ratio was 1:1.4. Average total PPOS values were doctors -4.57, medical students -4.58, nurses -4.21, nursing students -4.41, and allied health staff – 4.37. There were no significant difference between the sharing and caring attitudes between the different age groups. Both males and females showed the same caring and sharing attitudes. Doctors and medical students scored higher in caring (4.97) and sharing (4.91) when compared to the rest of the population (caring – 4.02, sharing – 4.66). The patient centeredness is assessed by the sharing score. The sharing attitude was (4.69) higher than the caring (4.03).

**CONCLUSION:** Tamil version of the PPOS will be a valid and a reliable tool once it is tested on a larger population mainly on patients.