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Quality in Primary Care

A preliminary investigation of the partners in health scale measurement properties in patients with end stage renal disease

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End-stage renal disease (ESRD) is becoming more prevalent in Australia. As a result, strategies to improve quality of life when living with ESRD are becoming increasingly important. The Flinders Program has been developed to help support and increase the self-management capacity of people living with chronic disease. The Partners in Health (PIH) scale is a self-management

capacity assessment tool, which is an integral element of the Flinders Program. The primary aim of this study was to investigate the preliminary measurement properties of the PIH scale within the ESRD population. Forty participants took part in the study, which involved survey assessments at baseline and follow up and a semi-structured interview. Results indicated that the PIH scale had good internal reliability ($\alpha=0.85$), moderate test-retest reliability ($r=0.33$) and face validity in ESRD patients. Areas for improving the instrument or data collection process were identified through qualitative interviews, and implications are discussed specific to ESRD patients.

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