

MacArthur Competence Assessment Tool for Treatment in Alzheimer disease: cross-cultural adaptation

MacArthur Competence Assessment Tool for Treatment na doença de Alzheimer: adaptação transcultural

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ABSTRACT

Objective: We adapted the MacArthur Competence Assessment Tool for Treatment (MacCAT-T) to Brazilian Portuguese, pilot testing it on mild and moderate patients with Alzheimer's disease (AD). **Methods:** The cross-cultural process required six steps. Sixty-six patients with AD were assessed for competence to consent to treatment, global cognition, working memory, awareness of disease, functionality, depressive symptoms and dementia severity. **Results:** The items had semantic, idiomatic, conceptual and experiential equivalence. We found no difference between mild and moderate patients with AD on the MacCAT-T domains. The linear regressions showed that reasoning ($p = 0.000$) and functional status ($p = 0.003$) were related to understanding. Understanding ($p = 0.000$) was related to appreciation and reasoning. Awareness of disease ($p = 0.001$) was related to expressing a choice. **Conclusions:** The MacCAT-T adaptation was well-understood and the constructs of the original version were maintained. The results of the pilot study demonstrated an available Brazilian tool focused on decision-making capacity in AD.

Keywords: decision making; mental competency; geriatric assessment; Alzheimer disease; translating.

RESUMO

Objetivo: Adaptamos o MacArthur Competence Assessment Tool for Treatment (MacCAT-T) para o português brasileiro, realizando estudo piloto em amostra de pessoas com doença de Alzheimer (DA) leve e moderada. **Métodos:** O processo transcultural apresentou seis passos. Posteriormente, avaliamos competência para consentimento do tratamento, cognição global, memória de trabalho, consciência da doença, funcionalidade, sintomas depressivos e gravidade da doença de 66 pessoas com DA. **Resultados:** Os itens apresentaram equivalência semântica, idiomática, conceitual e experiencial. Não encontramos diferenças entre pessoas com DA leve e moderada nos domínios do MacCAT-T. Regressões lineares demonstraram que raciocínio ($p = 0.000$) e funcionalidade ($p = 0.003$) estavam relacionados à compreensão. Compreensão ($p = 0.000$) estava relacionada ao julgamento e raciocínio. Consciência da doença ($p = 0.001$) estava relacionada à expressão da escolha. **Conclusões:** A adaptação da MacCAT-T foi bem compreendida e os constructos da versão original mantidos. Resultados do estudo piloto apontaram disponibilidade de ferramenta brasileira sobre tomada de decisões na DA.

Palavras-chave: tomada de decisões; competência mental; avaliação geriátrica; doença de Alzheimer; tradução.

Competence to consent to treatment is the ability to accept a treatment, refuse it or select among alternatives¹. It relies on four abilities: understanding the information about diagnosis and treatment, appreciating the situation and its consequences, reasoning about treatment options regarding

consequences for everyday life, and expressing a choice². Any degree of interference on each of these four abilities may lead to impaired competence to consent to treatment³.

Previous research among patients with AD has shown that decreased cognitive function and the presence of

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Macarthur Competence Assessment Tool For Treatment

H Kauffman



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Table of Contents Macarthur Competence Assessment Tool For Treatment

1. Understanding the eBook Macarthur Competence Assessment Tool For Treatment
 - The Rise of Digital Reading Macarthur Competence Assessment Tool For Treatment
 - Advantages of eBooks Over Traditional Books
2. Identifying Macarthur Competence Assessment Tool For Treatment
 - Exploring Different Genres
 - Considering Fiction vs. Non-Fiction
 - Determining Your Reading Goals
3. Choosing the Right eBook Platform
 - Popular eBook Platforms
 - Features to Look for in an Macarthur Competence Assessment Tool For Treatment
 - User-Friendly Interface
4. Exploring eBook Recommendations from Macarthur Competence Assessment Tool For Treatment
 - Personalized Recommendations
 - Macarthur Competence Assessment Tool For Treatment User Reviews and Ratings
 - Macarthur Competence Assessment Tool For Treatment and Bestseller Lists

5. Accessing Macarthur Competence Assessment Tool For Treatment Free and Paid eBooks
 - Macarthur Competence Assessment Tool For Treatment Public Domain eBooks
 - Macarthur Competence Assessment Tool For Treatment eBook Subscription Services
 - Macarthur Competence Assessment Tool For Treatment Budget-Friendly Options
6. Navigating Macarthur Competence Assessment Tool For Treatment eBook Formats
 - ePub, PDF, MOBI, and More
 - Macarthur Competence Assessment Tool For Treatment Compatibility with Devices
 - Macarthur Competence Assessment Tool For Treatment Enhanced eBook Features
7. Enhancing Your Reading Experience
 - Adjustable Fonts and Text Sizes of Macarthur Competence Assessment Tool For Treatment
 - Highlighting and Note-Taking Macarthur Competence Assessment Tool For Treatment
 - Interactive Elements Macarthur Competence Assessment Tool For Treatment
8. Staying Engaged with Macarthur Competence Assessment Tool For Treatment
 - Joining Online Reading Communities
 - Participating in Virtual Book Clubs
 - Following Authors and Publishers Macarthur Competence Assessment Tool For Treatment
9. Balancing eBooks and Physical Books Macarthur Competence Assessment Tool For Treatment
 - Benefits of a Digital Library
 - Creating a Diverse Reading Collection Macarthur Competence Assessment Tool For Treatment
10. Overcoming Reading Challenges
 - Dealing with Digital Eye Strain
 - Minimizing Distractions
 - Managing Screen Time
11. Cultivating a Reading Routine Macarthur Competence Assessment Tool For Treatment
 - Setting Reading Goals Macarthur Competence Assessment Tool For Treatment
 - Carving Out Dedicated Reading Time
12. Sourcing Reliable Information of Macarthur Competence Assessment Tool For Treatment
 - Fact-Checking eBook Content of Macarthur Competence Assessment Tool For Treatment
 - Distinguishing Credible Sources
13. Promoting Lifelong Learning

- Utilizing eBooks for Skill Development
- Exploring Educational eBooks

14. Embracing eBook Trends

- Integration of Multimedia Elements
- Interactive and Gamified eBooks

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