# Acceptability, Reliability, and Inconsistency in an Analytic Hierarchy Process survey with People living with Dementia and Physicians



## A Cross-Sectional Analysis from the Mixed-Methods PreDemCare-study



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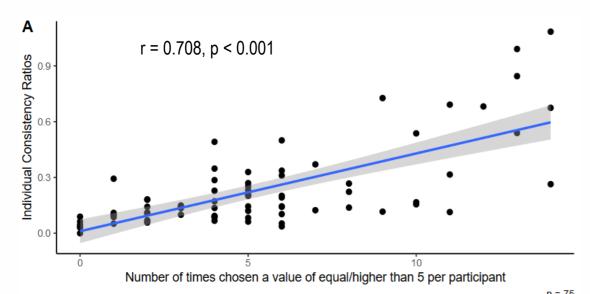
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## **Background & Aim**

- Person-Centered Care (PCC) requires knowledge about patient preferences <sup>1</sup>
- Limited data on quantitative patient preferences among People living with Dementia (PlwD) <sup>2</sup>
- Analytic Hierarchy Process (AHP) has been suggested suitable for people with cognitive impairments<sup>3</sup>
- Important aspect of an AHP-survey: evaluation of acceptability, reliability and consistency.<sup>4</sup>
- Aim: The evaluation of acceptability, reliability and consistency in an AHP survey for PCC in Dementia with PlwD and Physicians

#### **Results**

- Acceptability: No missing's in AHP survey, 2/3 of patients rated survey as rather easy/neutral, none as difficult
- Reliability: some contradiction, only n=3 (6%) of patients & n=2 (8%) of physicians chose contradictive, per ICC moderate agreement for criteria, substantial agreement for sub-criteria
- Mean CRs below threshold (patients = 0.261, physicians = 0.181)
- No significant correlation of CR by participant characteristics



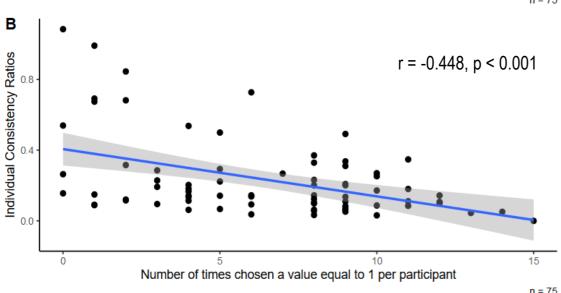


Fig. 1 Individual CRs plotted against sum of times chosen values of  $\geq 5$  or = 1

### **Conclusions**

AHP showed good acceptability, moderate-substantial agreement in reliability, and both group's consistency below defined threshold. Findings should be tested in larger samples, potentially adjust AHP-judgement-scale to avoid use of high values and related risk of inconsistency.

#### **Methods**

- A cross-sectional analysis of data from the Mixed-Methods *PreDemCare-Study* <sup>5</sup>, IRB approval; Ref.-Nr.: BB018-21
- Extensive pre-study (systematic literature review <sup>6</sup>, qualitative interviews <sup>7</sup>, pre-tests <sup>8</sup>) for AHP decision hierarchy and surveys
- 6x2-(sub)criteria AHP experimental-design
- Individual surveys with n=50 community-dwelling PlwD and n=25 physicians
- AHP weights calculated with Principal Eigenvector method <sup>9</sup>, aggregated by Aggregation of Individual Priorities (AIP) method <sup>10</sup> with Expert Choice Comparion and R (package ,ahp-survey')
- Acceptability: missing values and rating of survey difficulty with 5point-scale (easy to difficult)
- Reliability: descriptive analyses, Intra-Class-Correlation (ICC)
- Consistency: individual CR =  $(λ_{max} n / n-1)*(1 / RI)$ , where RI = Random Index <sup>11</sup>, aggregated per group, accepted inconsistency threshold for patients CR ≤ 0.3 <sup>12</sup>, physicians CR ≤ 0.2 <sup>13</sup>
- Test for correlation of CR-value and severity of cognitive impairment (DemTect <sup>14</sup>, Mini Mental Status Examination (MMSE) <sup>15</sup>, diagnosis, status (patient/physician), sum of values ≥5/ =1 value-judgements with univariable analyses

Table 1a Participant characteristics (excerpt) n=50 patients

Characteristic	n (%)
Age (years, recoded binary grouped)	
60-80	22 (44.0)
81 to >90	28 (56.0)
Female gender	28 (56.0)
DemTect	8.02 (3.49) a
MMSE	23.5 (4.2) a
Diagnosis of MCI or dementia <sup>b</sup>	40 (80.0)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Mean (SD)

**Table 1b** Participant characteristics (excerpt) n=25 physicians

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Characteristic	n (%)
Age (years, recoded binary grouped)	
30-50	13 (52.0)
51 to > 70	12 (48.0)
Female gender	18 (72.0)
Family medicine/ general practitioner <sup>a</sup>	16 (64.0)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Other specialists included from psychiatry, neurology and internal medicine.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup> ICD-10: F00.1, F00.2, F00.9, F01.3, F01.9, F02.3, F03, F06.7, G30, U51.02, U51.11, U51.12