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Translation and validation of the Thai Version of the Oral Health-related Caregiver Burden Index (OHBI) Among Caregivers of Patients Living with Neurocognitive Disorders

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Abstract

Objectives: To translate and validate a Thai version of the Oral Health-related Caregiver Burden Index (OHBI) for caregivers in Thailand.

Methods: The Japanese OHBI was translated and culturally adapted into Thai through a structured process involving forward and backward translation, expert committee review, and pre-final version testing. These steps were conducted to ensure content and face validity. The Thai OHBI was then administered to caregivers of outpatients at a general hospital in Thailand, assisting patients with major neurocognitive disorders (MNDs) and Parkinson's disease (PD). A minimum of forty-six participants was required, accounting for dropout rates.

Results: The questionnaire was initially administered to sixty caregivers, with forty-seven caregivers completing the follow-up assessment at week two. Internal consistency was acceptable, (Cronbach's alpha: 0.676 to 0.864). Test-retest reliability, assessed using the Intraclass Correlation Coefficient (ICC), ranged from 0.296 to 0.647. The Mann-Whitney U test demonstrated significant discriminant validity. Over 80% of participants reported difficulties in performing oral hygiene care for PD and MNDs patients, and approximately half of the caregivers perceived a burden in providing oral care.

Conclusions: The Thai OHBI demonstrated acceptable reliability and validity. However, further testing in larger caregiver populations is required to confirm its robustness and applicability.

Keywords: aged, caregiver burden, neurodegenerative diseases, oral care, oral hygiene