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I-CReST 2025:187-137 – Content Validation of Behavioral Treatment Framework

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ABSTRACT

Dental occupational hazards pose a significant risk to dental practitioners, with insufficient guidelines to mitigate prevalent issues such as back, shoulder and neck pain as well as eye strain. Ergonomic recommendations for minimizing the risks of back injuries and eye fatigue focus on improving working posture are important to prevent musculoskeletal disorder. Therefore, this study aimed to validate the items of Behavioral Treatment Framework (BTF) on dental practitioners' occupational health. Materials and methods: This is a qualitative study and convenience sampling was applied. The content validation of BTF was conducted by interviewing orthopaedic specialists, optometrists and dental practitioners and their feedback was recorded and analysed using content validity index (CVI) in terms of its relevancy, clarity, simplicity and ambiguity. The revision of the BTM items (I-CVI score <1) was guided by expert feedback, leading to the finalisation of items for the newly developed BTF. Result: Twelve (12) out of 21 items were refined based on index values and expert feedback. Item 3c (pre-operative), initially comprising two components, was split into two separate items (3c and 3d). The newly developed BTF now comprises 22 items. Conclusion: BTF demonstrated strong evidence of content validity across all four dimensions: relevancy, clarity, simplicity, and ambiguity. Most of the items achieved acceptable to excellent Item-Level Content Validity Index (I-CVI) scores, with Scale-Level Content Validity Index (S-CVI) values meeting recommended thresholds. It indicates that the framework components are conceptually sound, contextually appropriate, and clearly presented.

Keywords: Validation; Behavioural treatment framework; Occupational hazards; Back pain; Eye strain