

## ORIGINAL PAPER

Therapy area: Other

# Adaptation of the evidence-based practices attitude scale-15 in Turkish family medicine residents

Duygu Ayhan Başer<sup>1</sup>  | Ezgi Ağadayı<sup>2</sup> | Seval Gönderen Çakmak<sup>3</sup> | Rabia Kahveci<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Family Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, Hacettepe University, Ankara, Turkey

<sup>2</sup>Department of Medical Education, Faculty of Medicine, Cumhuriyet University, Sivas, Turkey

<sup>3</sup>Eldivan Healthcare Vocational School, Çankırı Karatekin University, Çankırı, Turkey

<sup>4</sup>Department of Family Medicine, Ankara City Hospital, Ankara, Turkey

**Correspondence**

Duygu Ayhan Başer, Department of Family Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, Hacettepe University, Ankara, Turkey.  
Email: duyguayhan@outlook.com

**Abstract**

**Aims:** Aim of this study is to translate and apply a cross-cultural adaptation of the Evidence-Based Practice Attitude Scale (EBPAS) in Turkish and investigate its validity and reliability.

**Methods:** The original EBPAS-15 (a questionnaire assessing health professionals' attitudes to implementation of evidence-based practice) was translated into Turkish. To assess its validity and reliability, 151 family medicine residents answered the EBPAS-15 by web-based survey. In addition, relationships of family medicine residents' characteristics with EBPAS-15 total scores are examined.

**Results:** The results showed that the EBPAS-15 has good internal consistency and reliability. The Cronbach's alpha value for EBPAS-15 was 0.828. The scores of the two scales were highly correlated ( $\rho = 0.72$ ). In the scale, there was no item with a total correlation value of less than 0.40. For this reason, no item was removed due to the high reliability value of all 15 items.

**Conclusion:** The Turkish version of the EBPAS-15 shows mainly good validity and reliability.

## 1 | INTRODUCTION

Evidence-based practice is a problem-solving approach to clinical practice that integrates the best evidence from studies and patient preferences and values and a clinician's expertise in making decisions about a patient's care.<sup>1</sup> Evidence-based practices are rapidly gaining importance for reasons such as reaching the truth in the most reliable way and encouraging scientific and critical thinking. Today, the need for new information leads to the rapid spread of evidence-based practices.

The attitudes of health care workers about evidence-based practices are substantial and play an important role in determining its implementation. EBPAS-15 also measures health worker's attitudes toward adopting new treatments, interventions, and practices. The Evidence-Based Practice Attitude Scale (EBPAS-15) was developed to assess the attitudes of mental health and social service providers toward evidence-based practices,<sup>2</sup> and the EBPAS-15 has been translated in different languages and is being used in several countries<sup>3-7</sup>; however, there is no Turkish version of the EBPAS-15.

Previous studies have suggested adequate internal consistency for the EBPAS-15 total score (0.79-0.77) and good internal consistency for the subscale scores (0.93-0.74).<sup>2,7-9</sup>

Family physicians are the first contact point for health services to people. They coordinate the health care systems and provide comprehensive and holistic care. Within this broad, evidence-based practice is very important for family physicians especially for make clinical decisions about diagnosis, prognosis, and patient management. Many studies have emphasised the need for evidence-based family medicine.<sup>10,11</sup> Family medicine residency training programmes now include evidence-based medicine courses in most countries to increase the use and implementation of evidence-based practices in family medicine. Also, the physicians' attitudes toward evidence-based practices may give useful information about practitioners' readiness to adopt a new intervention. In this case, it is important to evaluate the family medicine residents' attitudes towards evidence-based practices.

To our knowledge, a Turkish version of the EBPAS-15 has not yet become available, and no other study to date has examined