

Digital adaptability competency for healthcare professionals: a modified explorative e-Delphi study

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Introduction

Healthcare professionals are expected to keep up and join the digital evolution. The implementation of eHealth requires a change in the healthcare professionals' competencies of which the ability to adapt to technological change is fundamental.

Digital adaptability (DA) refers to learning how to use, and organize, new ICT within healthcare.

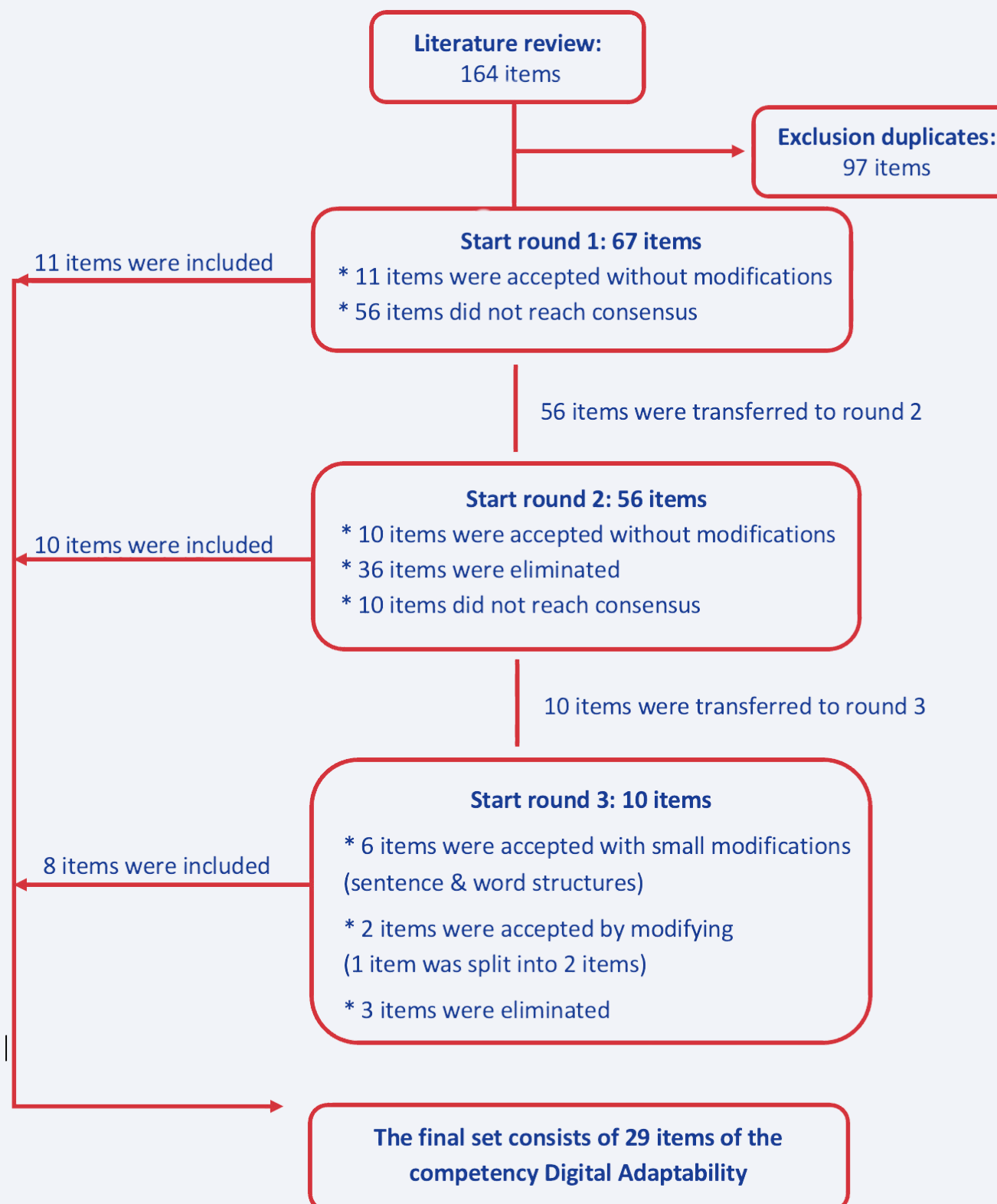
Method

A **modified explorative e-Delphi study** with 12 experts to identify a list of items for nurses and midwives related to the competency of DA.

Conclusion

A list of **29 items** of the competency of digital adaptability is identified.

Results



The concept of digital adaptability of nurses and midwives: A factor analysis

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Introduction

The SEPDA consists of **29 items** that describe **digitally adaptable (DA) competencies** for midwives and nurses.

One of the most important competencies for the adoption of eHealth is the ability to adapt to technological change. Digital adaptability refers to learning how to use, and organize, new ICT within healthcare.

Method

Factor Analysis to investigate the **underlying factors** of the 29 DA competencies in order to identify the phenomenon's key or conceptual properties.

Results

Explorative Factor Analysis

Two factors

- "me & the digital world" (17 items)
- "me, the digital world & my patient" (11 items)
- Explained 60.09% of total variance

Confirmatieve Factor Analysis

Good model-of-fit

- $\chi^2(p < 0.001)$, $CMIN/df = 3.04$, $CFI = 0.91$, $RMSEA = 0.08$

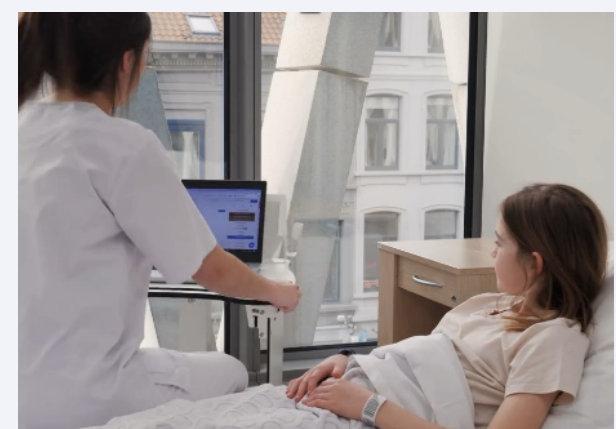
Internal consistency $\alpha = 0.964$

- "me & the digital world" $\alpha = 0.959$
- "me, the digital world & my patient" $\alpha = 0.926$

Me & digital world



Me, digital world & my patient



Conclusion

- **"me & the digital world"** is task-oriented and focuses on the nurses/midwives' personal use of technology.
- **"me, the digital world & my patient"** is patient-centred and focuses on the use of technology by nurses and midwives while interacting with their patients during care provision.

The digital adaptability competencies of student nurses and midwives: An exploratory study

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Introduction

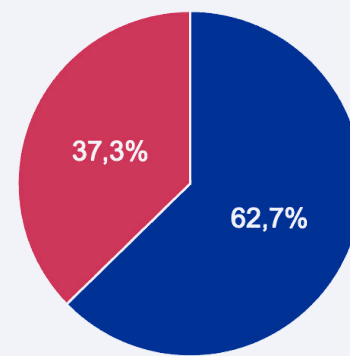
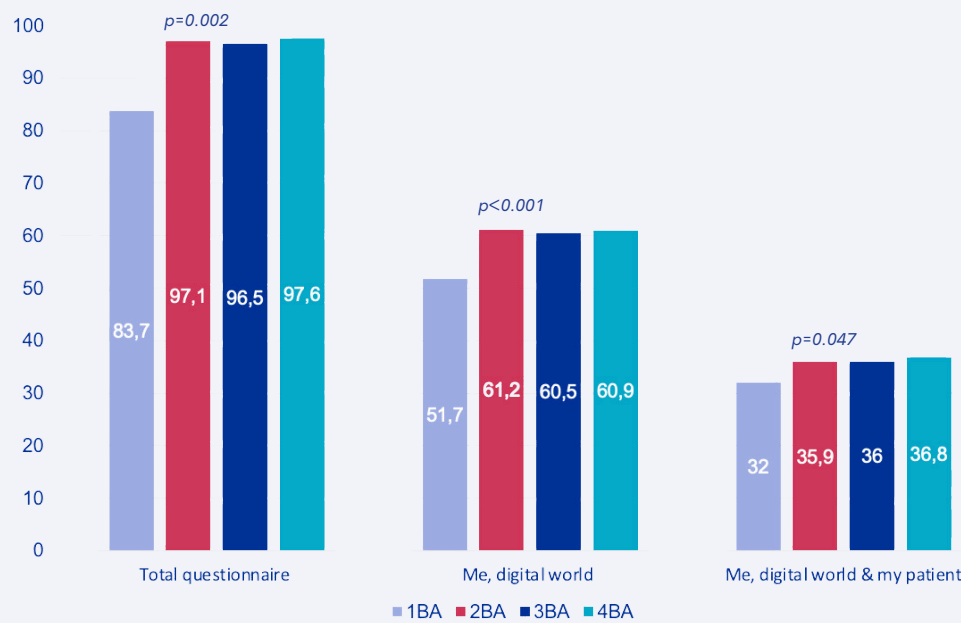
The concept of **digital adaptability** consists of **29 competencies** divided into **two factors**: "me & the digital world" and "me, the digital world & my patient".

Method

A **cross-sectional survey** conducted among 280 nursing and midwifery students. The aim of this study was to identify the digital adaptability competencies of student nurses and midwives.

Results

Total score on the questionnaire



I find myself...

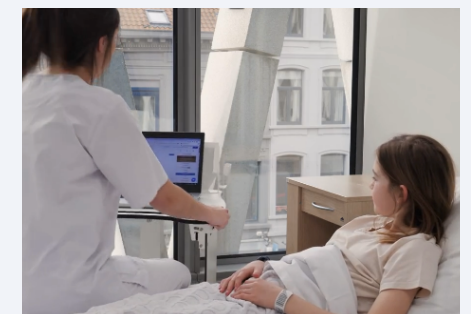
... less digitally adaptable
... digitally adaptable

Me & digital world



mean: 3.35 ± 0.906

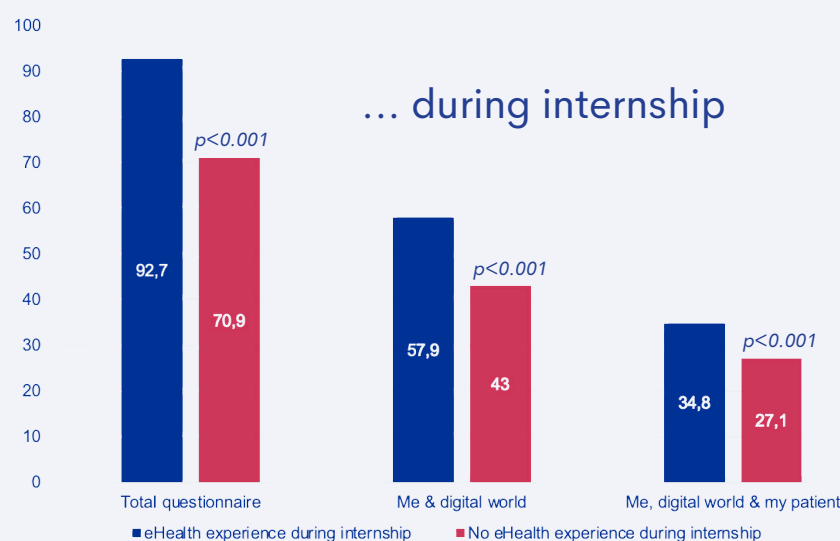
Me, digital world & my patient



mean: 2.86 ± 0.891

$p < 0.001$

eHealth experience...



Conclusion

The largest impact on developing competencies of digital adaptability seems to be obtained in practice. Further research should identify whether there is a need to optimise midwifery and nursing education.