

Abstract

Psychometric Validation of the Italian Version of the Malignant Wound Assessment Tool – Clinical (MWAT-C) in Oncological Skin Lesions

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Introduction. Malignant fungating wounds are a frequent complication in patients with advanced cancer, with an estimated incidence ranging from 5% to 10%. Their management is complex because of their considerable physical, psychological, and social impact. The Malignant Wound Assessment Tool – Clinical version (MWAT-C) is one of the few instruments available in the literature for the multidimensional assessment of these lesions, and an Italian-language version has recently been developed. The aim of this study was to assess the inter-rater reliability, internal consistency, and user satisfaction of the Italian version of the MWAT-C (MWAT-C IT).

Methods. An observational validation study was conducted through simultaneous administration of the scale by two independent assessors. A total of 220 observations were collected for each item from

patients enrolled in the study. Data were analyzed to determine inter-rater reliability and internal consistency. User satisfaction was assessed using the User Experience Questionnaire.

Results. Inter-rater reliability was high, with 99.3% agreement across 6,272 items analyzed. Users provided an overall positive assessment, highlighting the usefulness and practicality of the instrument for the evaluation of oncological wounds.

Discussion. The MWAT-C IT proved to be a reliable instrument that was well accepted by healthcare professionals and useful for the standardized and multidimensional assessment of oncological wounds. Its application may support clinical decision-making and improve the quality of care.

Keywords: Malignant Fungating Wounds, Wound Assessment, MWAT-C

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