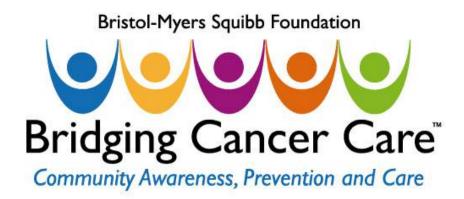
# VALIDATION OF A COLOSTOMY CARE ALGORITHM





Balan Alina<sup>1</sup> RN, Burlacu Gabriela<sup>2</sup> RN, MSc, Drd., Ghiran Cristina<sup>1</sup> RN, MSc. **HOSPICE Casa Sperantei <sup>2</sup>Transilvania University Brasov** 

### BACKGROUND:

One of the main challenges that patients with advanced colon cancer are confronted with, is the management of colostomy. HOSPICE Casa Sperantei provides a stoma therapy service that operates both in acute care and palliative care services in the aria. In the last five years (2013-2018) the service provided 1844 consultations, 58,78% in acute services- surgical units, and 41,22% in palliative care services, outpatient and inpatient

AIM: To develop and validate in clinical practice a colostomy care algorithm. The algorithm purpose was to provide the following:



The necessary and relevant information to facilitate a standardized approached in assessing the person with colostomy and selecting the right interventions

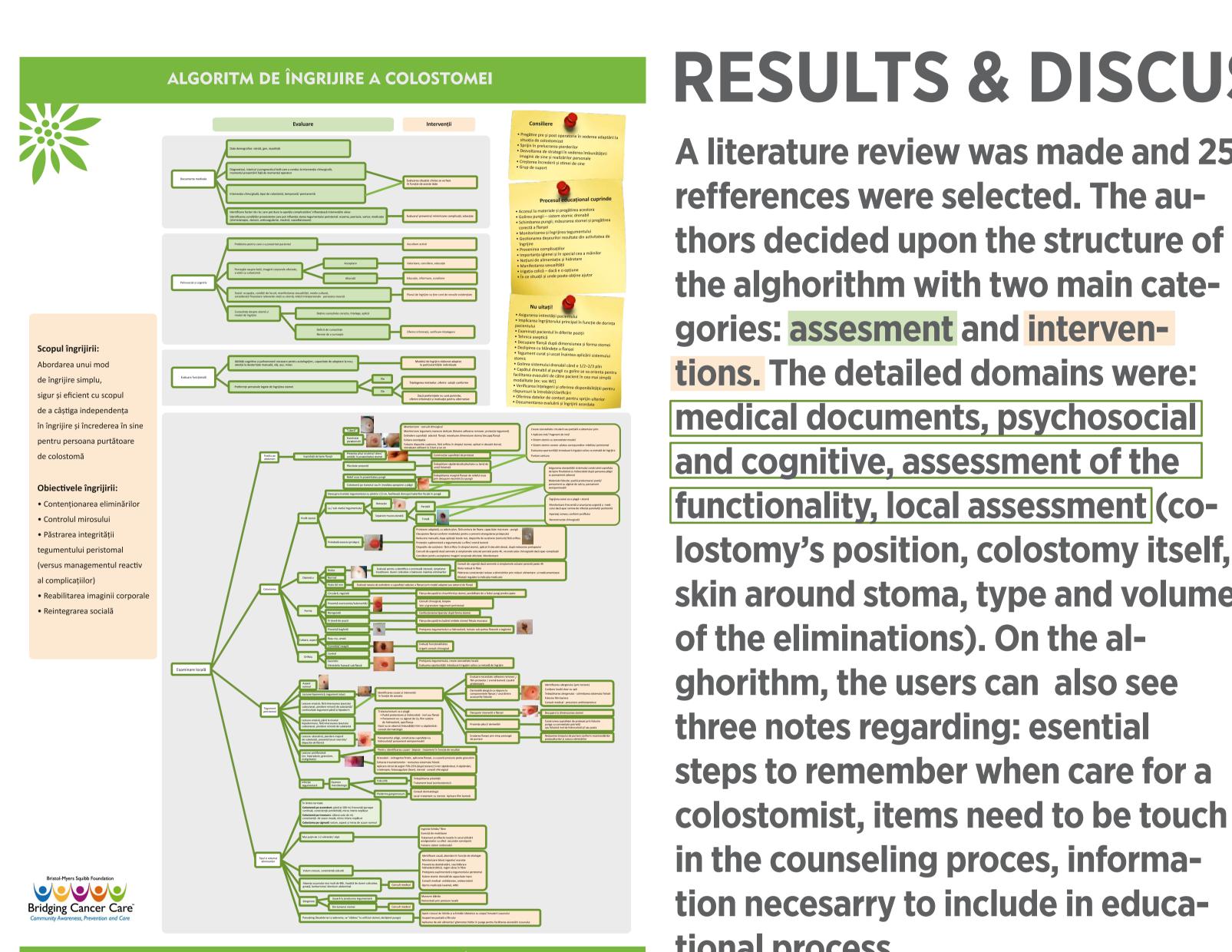


**Facilitating** the evidenced based care



Avoiding the unnecessary/ harmful actions, preventing the possible complications and also early detection and management for the occurred complications

The instrument was developed based on literature review and nurse's expertise in care for colostomies. Alongside the algo-METHOD: rithm, 5 clinical vignettes were prepared. Meetings with groups of registered nurses, practicing in acute and palliative care settings were held. Following written consent, respondents answered demographic questions and worked individually a plan of stoma care intervention for each of 5 clinical vignettes. The care plans were analyzed regarding the correctness and completeness. A brief algorithm tutorial followed and then the individual care plans designed were reanalyzed using the algorithm. After using the created instrument, they answered to a questionnaire regarding the usefulness, the content, the structure and way of using the algorithm. The results of the questionnaire were analyzed using SPSS 20.



### RESULTS & DISCUSSION

A literature review was made and 25

refferences were selected. The au-

the alghorithm with two main cate-

gories: assesment and interven-

tions. The detailed domains were:

lostomy's position, colostomy itself,

skin around stoma, type and volume

of the eliminations). On the al-

three notes regarding: esential

ghorithm, the users can also see

steps to remember when care for a

colostomist, items need to be touch

in the counseling proces, informa-

tion necesarry to include in educa-

tional process.

Sessions with nurses from surgical, oncological, palliative care services and other services were organized. 49 nurses participated at the sessions organized, in groups. The analyses of demographic data revealed:

Hard to comprise

Palliative Care 246,9% General surgical units 22,4% Oncological units 220,4%

YEARS OF EXPERIENCE IN NURSING			LEVEL OF NURSING STUDIES	
< 1 year 1 - 3 years 3 - 5 years 5 - 10 years 10 years +		6.1% 10.2% 8.2% 12.2% 63.3%	Post-secondary studies College University Post-graduate studies Undeclared	55.1% 6.1% 30.6% 4.1% 4.1%

40.8%

**36.7%** 

22.4%

0%

#### **AVERAGE MARKS CARE PLANS**

**Pre-algorithm** 6.29 care plans **Post-algorithm** 

9

Useful Useful and logical Logical

THE DATA FROM QUESTIONNAIRES SHOWS:

One suggestion was made: more examples-pictures/ videos

## All of the participants found there are no unknown terms and no need for more explanations

**COMMENTS REGARDING IMPLEMENTATION** 

**HOW EASY IS TO** 63.3% Easy **FOLLOW THE AL-**Very easy 30.6% **GORITHM IN RE-**Hard 6.1 % **SOLVING CASES?** 0% Very hard

THE MOST USEFUL **INFORMATION IN** THE ALGORITHM WERE CONSIDERED All

Local assessment 34.8% Interventions 32.6% Assessment & interventions 19.6% 13%

care plans

None of the participants consider that any information should be presented on the algorithm less detailed. The participants do not have any suggestion for information that should be added.

## **EXPLANATORY IMAGES IN THE ALGORITHM**

Useful 79.6% Well illustration of the text 20.4% 0% Useless The positioning is not clear

Suggestion made: 4,1 % participants would like the images to be bigger and another 4.1% would like more and bigger images.

#### REGARDING THE "NOTES" PRESENTED, THE PARTICIPANTS CONSIDER:

98% opt positive: "very useful"/ "extremely useful"/"very good"/ "cool", 2% no answer. The notes with items need to be touch in the counseling proces and information necesarry to include in educational process were considered in 85.7% - very usefull. 14.3% did not answer.

A useful tool for practitioners 34.7% Easy to implement 18.4% The algorithm is seen like a professional evidenced based resource/tool 16.3% For implementing the algorithm need to organized like a brochure versus poster 10.2% Hard to implement because of limited resources 4.1% Hard to implement 14.3% No answer

Correlation between studies level and most useful information explained in algorithm showed the need of information regarding local assessment domain for the participants with Post- secondary professional studies ( p = 0.05)

The algorithm purpose was act as a learning tool. It was considered CONCLUSION: very useful by the nurses who participated in the study. It was proved that the care plans were more accurate, more efficient, effective and comprehensive after the tutorial session. It is seen as a valued professional instrument and a useful tool for practitioners. For a better implementation stage, the nurses would prefer to have the information in a brochure

instead of a poster and the dissemination stage should comprise an educational session.