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Health literacy and adherence to therapy in type 2 diabetes: a cross-sectional study in Portugal

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Health literacy and adherence to therapy in type 2 diabetes: a cross-sectional study in Portugal

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Resumo

Introdução: A adesão à terapêutica tem um papel essencial no controlo da diabetes mellitus tipo 2 (DMT2). A otimização do autocuidado requer competências entre as quais é salientada a literacia em saúde (LS).

Objetivo: Perceber a relação entre LS e a adesão à terapêutica farmacológica e não farmacológica, bem como perceber a possível influência de variáveis sociodemográficas e de doença nesta relação.

Métodos: Estudo multicêntrico e transversal nos cuidados de saúde primários, utilizando uma amostra representativa da população portuguesa com DMT2 a nível nacional, com idades entre os 20 e os 79 anos. Os dados recolhidos incluíram um questionário sociodemográfico e dois instrumentos de auto-preenchimento, validados para a população portuguesa – *Medical Term Recognition Test* e Escala de Atividades de Autocuidado com a Diabetes. Dos registos clínicos foi recolhido o último valor de hemoglobina glicosilada (HbA1c) e o número de fármacos da medicação crónica do participante. Foi feita análise descritiva e análise bivariada, utilizando os testes de Spearman e U de Mann Whitney e posterior análise de regressão linear múltipla para estimar a adesão à terapêutica com base na LS, controlando as variáveis que foram consideradas possíveis confundentes.

Resultados: A amostra (n = 354) tinha uma idade média de 63.67 ± 10.39 anos, 57.1% do sexo masculino, 68,4% com LS inadequada e uma HbA1c média de 7.03 ± 1.18%. Foi encontrada uma correlação significativa da LS com a adesão ao total das atividades de autocuidado (q = 0.136; p = 0.021), com a terapêutica não farmacológica (q = 0.142; p = 0.009) e com os cuidados com os pés (q = 0.168; p = 0.002). Na análise de regressão linear múltipla, a LS ($\beta = 0.176$, p = 0.003), o salário ($\beta = -0.197$, p = 0.001) e a insulinoterapia ($\beta = 0.199$, p = 0.001) explicaram 8.6% da variação na adesão ao total das atividades de autocuidado. Relativamente à terapêutica não farmacológica, a LS ($\beta = 0.159$, p = 0.003), o salário ($\beta = 0.272$, p < 0.001) explicaram 10.4% da variação na adesão. Verificou-se que maior LS, salário inferior ao salário mínimo nacional, e insulinoterapia eram fatores independentemente associados a maior adesão.

Discussão: Numa amostra aproximadamente representativa dos diabéticos tipo 2 em Portugal, a LS revelou-se um fator chave na capacidade de maior adesão a exigentes atividades de autocuidado com a diabetes. Diferentes instrumentos de avaliação, metodologias e variáveis confundentes consideradas tornam difícil a comparação entre estudos. **Conclusões**: Melhor LS está relacionada com maior adesão às atividades de autocuidado, nomeadamente à terapêutica não farmacológica, independentemente do salário e da insulinoterapia e, portanto, deve ser considerada no desenho de estratégias para minorar a não adesão das pessoas com DMT2.

Palavras-chave: Diabetes Mellitus, Tipo 2; Literacia em Saúde; Adesão à Medicação; Autocuidado; Autogestão

Abstract

Introduction: Therapy adherence is a key factor in the control of type 2 diabetes mellitus (T2DM). Optimal selfcare requires skills among which health literacy (HL) is pointed.

Objective: To analyze the relationship between HL and adherence to both pharmacological and non-pharmacological therapy and to understand the possible influence of other sociodemographic and disease variables.

Methods: Multicentric, cross-sectional study in primary care, with a representative sample of the Portuguese population with T2DM at national level, aged 20 to 79 years. Data collected included a sociodemographic questionnaire and two validated instruments – Medical Term Recognition Test and Summary of Diabetes Self-care Activities. The last value of glycated hemoglobin (HbA1c) and the number of chronic medications were collected from the participant's clinical records. Descriptive statistics and bivariate correlations were performed, using Spearman and Mann-Whitney tests. Multivariable linear regression was performed to assess the association between HL and adherence to overall self-care activities and to non-pharmacological therapy while controlling for potential confounders.

Results: Participants (n = 354) were on average 63.67 ± 10.39 years old, 57.1% males, 68.4% with inadequate HL and an average HbA1c of 7.03 ± 1.18%. HL was significantly correlated with higher adherence to the total of self-care activities ($\varrho = 0.136$; p = 0.021), non-pharmacological therapy ($\varrho = 0.142$; p = 0.009) and foot care ($\varrho = 0.168$; p = 0.002). In multivariable linear regression analyses, HL ($\beta = 0.176$, p = 0.003), salary ($\beta = -0.197$, p = 0.001) and insulin therapy ($\beta = 0.272$, p = 0.001) explained 8.6% of the variance in adherence to overall self-care activities. Regarding non-pharmacological therapy, HL ($\beta = 0.159$, p = 0.003), salary ($\beta = -0.129$, p = 0.017) and insulin therapy ($\beta = 0.272$, p < 0.001) explained 10.4% of the variance in adherence. Better HL, less than minimum wage and insulin therapy were independently associated with increased adherence.

Discussion: In an approximately representative sample of type 2 diabetics in Portugal, LS was a key factor in the capacity for greater adherence to demanding self-care activities with diabetes. Different assessment tools, methodologies and confounding variables considered make it difficult to compare between studies.

Conclusions: Better HL seems to lead to increased adherence to overall self-care activities, specifically to non-pharmacological therapy regardless of salary and insulin therapy and thus

should be considered in the design of strategies to overcome nonadherence among patients with T2DM.

Key-words: Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus; Health Literacy; Medication Adherence; Self Care; Self Management

Abbreviations

- **DPP4** Dipeptidyl peptidase-4
- HbA1c Glycated hemoglobin
- HL Health literacy
- **METER** Medical Term Recognition Test
- OAD Oral antidiabetic drugs
- SDSCA Summary of Diabetes Self-Care Activities
- **SEDI** Socioeconomic index
- SGLT2 Sodium-glucose co-transporter 2
- T2DM Type 2 diabetes mellitus

Introduction

Diabetes mellitus is a serious chronic health problem that affects about 1 in 11 adults worldwide, type 2 diabetes mellitus (T2DM) accounting for the majority of these cases¹. The estimated global prevalence of 451 million people with diabetes in 2017 is expected to increase to 693 million by 2045². Portugal is one of the countries with the highest prevalence of diabetes in Europe³ as 13,3% of Portuguese people between 20 and 79 years are estimated to have diabetes. This prevalence increases with age⁴. In several studies, older people were found to have less diabetes knowledge^{5,6} and a higher prevalence of inadequate health literacy (HL)⁷.

Effective management of diabetes is demanding for patients and requires self-care skills to make significant lifestyle changes and medication use⁸. These skills require adequate HL⁹, defined by the Institute of Medicine as "the degree to which individuals have the capacity to obtain, process and understand basic health information and services needed to make appropriate health decisions"¹⁰. Multiple factors have been associated with HL skills, like age and education¹¹. Al Saya and colleagues¹² found a consistent association between HL and diabetes knowledge. Low HL is associated with less knowledge about the disease¹³, poorer quality of physician-patient communication¹⁴, an increased risk of hospitalization and higher annual health care costs^{13,15}.

It is also known that nonadherence to medication is prevalent among type 2 diabetic patients⁷ and it is associated with poorer control and increased risk of complications^{16,17}. Adherence to therapy is defined by World Health Organization (WHO) as "the extent to which a person's behavior – taking medication, following a diet, and/ or executing lifestyle changes, corresponds with agreed recommendations from a health care provider"¹⁸. Not following the prescribed regimen often results from inadequate understanding of the disease and its treatment.

However, the relationship between HL, treatment adherence and glycemic control is controversial in the existing literature. Several studies report that low HL is associated with nonadherence to treatment^{17,19,20} and poor glycemic control^{13,21,22}, others found no association between HL and diabetes medication adherence²³ or HbA1c^{24,25} and some report that individuals with limited HL have better adherence to diabetes therapy²⁶.

In Portugal, there are few studies regarding this subject. One of them considers specifically the relationship between HL and adherence to T2DM therapy and reports good levels of adherence in a sample with low HL²⁷. Different studies report a significant positive association between diabetes control ability and diabetes-related knowledge and that participants with higher literacy present better disease control capacity^{28,29}.

It is important to clear up this current controversial association between HL and adherence to therapy to help healthcare providers and policy makers develop and implement adequate strategies to improve adherence to therapy among type 2 diabetic patients.

Recently, a pilot study in Portugal by Fernandes³⁰ found a statistically significant correlation between HL and higher adherence to non-pharmacologic therapy, but the study results could not be generalized. The purpose of this research was to extend the sample of that pilot study in order to obtain more data regarding the relationship between HL and adherence to both pharmacological and non-pharmacological therapy among type 2 diabetic patients in Portugal. Secondarily, we aimed to understand the possible confounding influence of sociodemographic and socioeconomic variables, previous metabolic control, type of diabetes pharmacological therapy and the number of different chronic medications in the relationship between HL and adherence to therapy.

Methods

Participants and setting

This was a multicentric, cross-sectional survey in primary care, using a convenience sample of adult patients with T2DM in Portugal.

The sample size (n=377) was calculated with the online tool <u>http://www.raosoft.com/samplesize.html</u>, with a margin of error of 5% and a 95% confidence interval. The number of questionnaires to be collected in each region was calculated according to the national distribution of people with diabetes by sex and $age^{4,31}$. Predicting possible droupouts and incomplete questionnaires, the numbers for each region were calculated for n=400.

After ethical approval, eligible patients with T2DM were quasi-randomly selected by their family doctors, volunteer collaborators, according to the sex and age distribution sent to them, during a regular clinic appointment in 13 different primary health care units in 6 of the 7 major regions of Portugal: North, Center, Lisbon and Tagus Valley, Algarve, Madeira and Azores. Patients were included in the study if they were aged from 20 to 79 years, with follow up in the recruitment primary health care center and had a clinic appointment between the chosen dates, were able to read and speak Portuguese, had a documented hemoglobin A1c measure and were willing to participate and signed informed consent. Patients were pregnant or were cognitively impaired to participate.

Data collection

Including the pilot study, data collection took place from December 2017 to January 2019 and consisted on the application of a self-administered questionnaire including sociodemographic variables and two survey instruments, one to assess health literacy, Medical Term Recognition Test (METER), and the other one to assess adherence, the Summary of Diabetes Self-Care Activities (SDSCA). Both were previously validated for the Portuguese population^{32,33}.

The sociodemographic variables included were: sex, age, occupation, school education (higher vs. equal to or less than 4 years), salary (higher vs. equal to or less than the national minimum wage) and whether living alone or not. The socioeconomic level was determined by calculating the SEDI index - from 0 to 3 points, with 1 point being assigned to each of the affirmative answers and 0 to the negative ones: "School education equal to or less

than 4 years?", "Salary equal to or less than the national minimum wage?" and "Do you live alone?".

In the HL assessment tool METER, adequate HL is defined as scoring at least 35 in 40 of the real words and 18 in 30 of "non-words" (words that may look like or sound like real words, but do not exist)³², but may also be scored as the number of words correctly recognized with similar results³⁴. The first scoring method was used for descriptive analysis and the second one for the other statistical analyses.

Adherence to therapy was assessed with a translated and adapted to Portuguese language version³³ of the revised Summary of Diabetes Self-Care Activities (SDSCA)³⁵. The questionnaire assesses aspects of six self-care dimensions of the diabetes treatment regimen over the previous seven days: diet care (general and specific), physical activity, blood glucose monitoring, foot care, use of medication and smoking habits. Answers are given in number of days per week and there is an equivalence between the answers and points attributed, on a 0-7 points scale, with 0 as the least desirable and 7 as the most, except for the dimension of specific diet, in which the values are reversed. The score for each of the first 5 dimensions was obtained calculating the average number of days of its respective items. Two of the 3 questions of section 6 (medication) could only be answered by patients who were insulin-treated. Therefore, the average score of this section considered only the first question "On how many of the last seven days, did you take your recommended diabetes medication?". We also calculated the average of the first 5 dimensions, related to non-pharmacological self-care activities. The higher the score, the better the adherence to the therapeutic regimen. Dimension 7, regarding smoking habits, was analyzed independently in the characterization of the sample with all its possible answers and then was recoded as smoker and non-smoker to perform the other statistical analyses.

From the clinical records, the attending physicians collected the following data: the last value of glycated hemoglobin (HbA1c), the number of different drugs of chronic medication for both diabetes mellitus type 2 and other conditions, if insulin therapy was performed or not and which classes of oral antidiabetic agents were prescribed.

Ethical approval

Approval was obtained by the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Coimbra and by the Ethics Committees of Regional Health Administrations of North, Center, Lisbon and Tagus Valley and Algarve, from the Ethic Committee of Local Health Unit of Castelo Branco, from the Ethic Committee of the Health Service of Autonomous Region of Madeira, from the Ethic Committee of Hospital do Divino Espírito Santo, in the Autonomous Region of Azores and from São Miguel Island Health Unit. Authorization was also obtained from the National Commission of Data Protection. (Annexes) Signed informed consent was obtained from the patients who agreed to participate.

Statistical analysis

Descriptive analysis was made for all the variables. Qualitative values were presented in number and percentage and quantitative values in mean \pm standard deviation, maximum and minimal values and median.

The normality of the sample was tested with Kolmogorov-Smirnov test and most variables didn't have normal distribution (p < 0.05), except the total of SDSCA (p = 0.200) and the total of non-pharmacological SDSCA items (p = 0.200), so non-parametric tests were used.

Bivariate analysis using Spearman correlation and Mann-Whitney U test were performed first for HL and each section of SDSCA, then for the sections of SDSCA that were significantly correlated with HL and possible continuous or categorical confounders (sociodemographic, socioeconomic and disease variables). Then, the same bivariate analysis was used to assess associations or correlations between HL and possible confounders.

Multivariable linear regression with forward selection method were conducted to assess the association between HL and adherence to therapy. The dependent variables for each proposed model were the total of self-care activities and the total of non-pharmacologic selfcare activities. The variables that were found to be significant (p < 0.05) in bivariate analysis were chosen for this analysis. Collinearity tests were performed and the normality of residuals was tested.

All statistical tests were performed using SPSS 22.0 for Mac. Results were considered statistically significant if p < 0.05.

Results

A total of 361 people with T2DM were recruited by the collaborators in 13 primary health care centers and participated in the study, but 7 were excluded for not having valid data (did not answer both HL scale and some category of SDSCA). A summary analysis of the 7 excluded participants showed similarities with the sample in terms of age, salary, occupation and way of living. Unlike the sample, the majority were female (57.1%) and none were insulin-treated.

The final sample consisted of 354 participants with an average age of 63.67 ± 10.39 years and a majority of males (57.1%). Table I shows the comparison by sex and age group between the sample and the Portuguese population with T2DM.

		Sample (n = 354)	Portuguese with T2DM
Sex	Female	42.9%	40.31%
Sex	Male	57.1%	59.69%
Age (years)	20-39	3.4%	4.73%
	40-59	28.8%	30.61%
	60-79	67.8%	64.66%

Table I - Comparison of the distribution by sex and age between the sample and Portuguese population

 with type 2 diabetes mellitus.

Regarding socioeconomic variables, 183 people (54.5%) studied 4 years or less, 201 (59.8%) earned more than the national minimum wage and 304 (86.1%) did not live alone. Relatively to occupation, 198 (56.3%) were retired (Table II).

In respect to T2DM pharmacological therapy, 337 patients (95.5%) were medicated with oral antidiabetic agents and 57 (16.1%) were insulin-treated. Metformin was prescribed to 304 (87.4%) participants. As to smoking habits, 204 (59%) had never smoked and 30 (8.7%) were smokers.

The average number of chronic medications per day was 5.27 ± 2.76 and the average value of glycated hemoglobin (HbA1c) was 7.03 ± 1.18 %. Concerning HL, measured by the METER tool, most participants (68.4%) had inadequate HL (did not score at least 35 in 40 of the real words and 18 in 30 of "non-words").

Variable			n	%		
School education	≤ 4 years		183	54.5		
School education	> 4 years		153	45.5		
Colory	≤ National minimu	ım wage	135	40.2		
Salary	> National minimu	im wage	201	59.8		
Living	Alone		49	13.9		
Living	Not alone		304	86.1		
	0		106	31.7		
SEDI .	1		110	32.9		
SEDI -	2		100	29.9		
-	3		18	5.4		
	Employed		136	38.6		
Occupation	Unemployed		18	5.1		
	Retired		198	56.3		
Ovel estidiek stie dwore	Metformin		304 87.4			
	DPP4-inhibitors		134	38.5		
Oral antidiabetic drugs	Sulfonylureas		67	19.3		
-	SGLT2-inhibitors		41	11.8		
Inculin thorony	Yes		57	16.1		
Insulin therapy	No		296 83.9			
	Never smoked		204	59		
-	Did not smoke for	> 2 years	98			
- Smoking babita	Did not smoke for	1-2 years	4	1.2		
Smoking habits	Did not smoke for	1-3 months	2	0.6		
-	Did not smoke for	the last month	8	2.3		
-	Smoker		30 8.7			
Variable	Mean ± SD	Minimum	Maximum	Median	n	
Age	63.67 ± 10.39	33	84	66	354	
Last value of HbA1c	7.03 ± 1.18	4.6	12.5	6.8	350	
Nr of medications p/ day	5.27 ± 2.76	0	16	5	348	
HL - words	28.76 ± 9.45	1	40	31.50	354	
HL – non-words	23.04 ± 7.21	0	30	25	354	

Table II - Descriptive measures of sociodemographic, socioeconomic and disease variables, habits and health literacy variables.

n = number of people with a value registered in the variable; SEDI = Socioeconomic index; SD = standard deviation In respect to the SDSCA questionnaire (Table III), medication was the item with the highest adherence, with a mean of 6.75 days and physical activity was the section with the lowest, with a mean of 1.91 days per week. The adherence to overall self-care activities was on average 4.33 days and 4.23 days for the total of non-pharmacological self-care activities.

		000011	000000	000000	00004.4	00004 5	000000	00001	0000.4
		SDSCA 1	SDSCA 2	SDSCA 3	SDSCA 4	SDSCA 5	SDSCA 6.1	SDSCA	SDSCA *
		(General	(Specific	(Physical	(Blood sugar	(Foot care)	(Medication)	Total	
		nutrition)	nutrition)	activity)	testing)				
	Mean	12,38	30.29	3.83	4.81	16.82	6.75	73.77	67.71
	± SD	± 5.00	± 7.26	± 4.06	± 5.03	± 4.83	± 1.14	± 14.89	± 14. 90
Points	Min.	0	8	0	0	0	0	28	21
Po	Max.	21	42	14	14	21	7	119	112
	n	340	345	350	345	349	310	290	332
	Mean	4.20	5.04	1.91	2.38	5.60	6.75	4.33	4.23
	± SD	± 1.72	± 1.23	± 2.03	± 2.51	± 1.60	± 1.14	± 0.87	± 0.93
avs	Min.	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Ő	Max.	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
	n	340	345	350	345	349	310	290	332

Table III - Results of the Summary of Diabetes Self-Care Activities (SDSCA) questionnaire.

n = number of people with a value registered in the variable; SD = standard deviation; min = minimum; max = maximum; *non-pharmacological

Concerning the correlations between HL (words) and the adherence to each section of SDSCA (Table IV), statistically significant but weak correlations were found with section 5 of SDSCA relative to foot care ($\varrho = 0.168$, p = 0.002), the total of SDSCA ($\varrho = 0.136$, p = 0.021) and the total of non-pharmacologic sections of SDSCA ($\varrho = 0.142$, p = 0.009). The higher the HL, the greater the foot care, the higher the adherence to overall self-care activities and to non-pharmacological therapy. Analyzing the non-statistically significant correlations, the adherence to each section of SDSCA tends to increase with HL, except for physical activity, medication and smoking habits.

Variables	Health liter	acy (words)	
variables	<i>p</i> value	6 *	
SDSCA 1 (General nutrition)	0.175	0.074	
SDSCA 2 (Specific nutrition)	0.210	0.068	
SDSCA 3 (Physical activity)	0.390	-0.046	
SDSCA 4 (Blood sugar testing)	0,104	0.088	
SDSCA 5 (Foot care)	0.002	0.168	
SDSCA 6.1 (Medication)	0.960	-0.003	
SDSCA 6.2 (Insulin)	0.424	0.073	
SDSCA Total	0.021	0.136	
SDSCA Total non-pharmacologica	al 0.009	0.142	
	Mean + SD	U-Mann. Whitney	
	iviean ± 5D	<i>p</i> value	
SDSCA 7 Smoker	29.73 ± 9.78	0.584	
(Smoking habits) Non-smoker	28.85 ± 9.16	0.004	

Table IV - Correlations between health literacy (words) and the sections of the Summary of Diabetes Self-Care Activities (SDSCA).

SD = standard deviation; *Spearman's rank correlation coefficient; SEDI = sociodemographic index

Adherence to the sections of SDSCA that had a statistically significant correlation with HL (words) – foot care, total SDSCA and total non-pharmacological SDSCA - have been compared between the categories of the sociodemographic, socioeconomic and disease variables, to identify possible confounders (Table V).

There were significant differences in adherence to non-pharmacological therapy and to the total of self-care activities between the categories of salary (p = 0.038; p = 0.003, respectively), oral antidiabetic drugs (p = 0.020; p = 0.016) and insulin prescription (p < 0.001; p < 0.001). People who adhered more to therapy were the ones who earned less than the national minimum wage, who were not medicated with OAD or who were medicated with insulin. No significant differences were found on adherence to foot care.

Table V - Differences in adherence to dimensions of the Summary of Diabetes Self-Care Activities (SDSCA) that were significantly correlated with HL between categories of sociodemographic variables, disease variables and smoking habits.

		Total SDSCA non- pharmacological			SDSCA 5 (Foot care)		Total SDSCA	
Variables		Mean (days) ± SD	U-Mann. Whitney <i>p</i> value	Mean (days) ± SD	U-Mann. Whitney <i>p</i> value	Mean (days) ± SD	U-Mann Whitney <i>p</i> value	
	≤ 4 years	4.21		5.52		4.31	0.798	
School		± 0.91		± 1.68		± 0.84		
Education	> 4 years	4.26	0.670	5.70	0.469	4.35		
		± 0.96		± 1.52		± 0.91		
	≤ National	4.36		5.57		4.50		
	minimum	± 0.89		± 1.74		± 0.85		
•	wage							
Salary	> National	4.14	0.038	5.62	0.626	4.20	0.003	
	minimum	± 0.93		± 1.52		± 0.86		
	wage							
	Alone	4.34		5.58		4.43		
		± 0.95	o o= (± 1.70		± 0.89	0.516	
Living	Not alone	4.22	0.374	5.62	0.994	4.31		
		± 0.93		± 1.59		± 0.87		
	Employed	4.20		5.49		4.31		
		± 0.94		± 1.48	0.128	± 0.90	0.110	
•	Unemployed	4.70		5.93		4.82		
Occupation		± 0.93	0.123	±1.33		± 0.93		
	Retired	4.22		5.67		4.30		
		± 0.91		± 1.71		± 0.84		
	Medicated	4.21		5.57		4.31		
Oral		± 0.92		± 1.61		± 0.87		
antidiabetic	Not	4.69	0.020	6.25	0.051	5.19	0.016	
drugs	medicated	± 1.06		± 1.35		±0.62		
	Yes	4.86		5.89		5.14		
Insulin		± 0.95		± 1.56		± 1.06		
therapy	No	4.11	< 0.001	5.54	0.069	4.28	< 0.001	
1,2		± 0.88		± 1.61		± 0.83		
		p value	6 *	<i>p</i> value	6 *	<i>p</i> value	6 *	
Age		0.872	-0.009	0.331	0.052	0.936	-0.005	
SEDI		0.239	0.066	0.911	-0.006	0.101	0.099	
Last HbA1c value		0.251	-0.063	0.740	-0.018	0.085	-0.102	
Nr of medica	ations per day	0.274	0.060	0.569	0.031	0.809	0.014	

SD = standard deviation; *Spearman's rank correlation coefficient; SEDI = sociodemographic index

Comparing HL (words) between the categories of possible confounders, there were significant differences between the categories of school education (p < 0.001), salary (p = 0.002), OAD (p = 0.001) and a significant correlation with SEDI ($\varrho = -0.317$, p < 0.001). Higher scores of HL were found in people who studied more than 4 years, in those who earned more than the national minimum wage, in those who were not medicated with OAD and in people with better socioeconomic level (lower SEDI) (Table VI).

		Health literacy			
	Variables	(w	vords)		
		Mean ± SD	U-Mann. Whitney		
			<i>p</i> value		
School	≤ 4 years	26.44 ± 8.57	<0.001		
education	> 4 years	31.11 ± 10.08			
Salary	≤ National minimum wage	27.62 ± 8.42	0.002		
Galary	> National minimum wage	29.39 ± 10.08	0.002		
Living	Alone	28.12 ± 8.76	0.346		
	Not Alone	28.83 ± 9.56	_ 0.0+0		
	Employed	28.46 ± 10.01			
Occupation	Unemployed	29.11 ± 8.20	0.972		
	Retired	28.83 ± 9.18	_		
Oral antidiabetic	Medicated	28.41 ± 9.51	0.001		
drugs	Not medicated	35.50 ± 4.02	0.001		
Insulin therapy	Medicated	29.09 ± 9.08	0.747		
mount merapy	Not medicated	28.66 ± 9.53	_ 0.747		
		<i>p</i> value	ę *		
Age		0.120	-0.083		
SEDI		<0.001	-0.317		
Last HbA1c value		0.532	-0.033		
Nr of medications	per day	0.080	0.094		
	F				

Table VI - Differences in level of health literacy (words) between categories of possible socioeconomic, sociodemographic and disease confounders.

*Spearman's rank correlation coefficient; SD = standard deviation; SEDI = sociodemographic index

Two multiple linear regression models were obtained to predict adherence to overall self-care activities and to non-pharmacological self-care activities, based on HL and on the variables found to be significant (p < 0.05) in bivariate analysis (school education, salary, insulin therapy and OAD). The results for each variable included in the final models are presented in Table VII.

The model that predicts adherence to the total of self-care activities had a significant regression equation (F(3, 270) = 9.579, p < 0.001) with an adjusted R² of 0,086. Participant's predicted adherence to overall self-care activities is equal to 4,041 + 0,016 (health literacy) – 0.347 (salary) + 0.807 (insulin), where HL is measured in points, salary is coded as 0 = equal or inferior than the national minimum wage, 1 = more than the national minimum wage and insulin therapy is coded as 0 = no, 1 = yes. Participant's adherence to overall self-care activities increased 0.016 days for each point of HL score, 0.807 days if they were insulin-treated and decreased 0.347 days if they earned more than the national minimum wage. Salary, insulin therapy and HL were significant predictors of adherence.

The other model, which predicts adherence to the total of non-pharmacological selfcare activities, also had a significant regression equation (F(3, 311) = 13.171, p < 0.001) with an adjusted R² of 0.104. Participant's predicted adherence to non-pharmacological therapy is equal to 3.822 + 0.016 (health literacy) – 0.244 (salary) + 0.693 (insulin) and increased 0.016 days for each point of HL score, 0.693 days in insulin-treated patients and decreased 0.244 days if they earned more than the national minimum wage. Salary, insulin therapy and HL were significant predictors of adherence.

	Dependent variable (Adherence)							
Predictor variable	Total of self-care activities				Total of non-pharmacologic self-care activities			
	B ± SE	β	<i>p</i> value	95% CI	B ± SE	β	p value	95% CI
Health literacy	0.016 ± 0.005	0.176	0.003	0.006 to 0.026	0.016 ± 0.005	0.159	0.003	0.005 to 0.026
Insulin therapy no yes	Reference 0.807 ± 0.236	0.199	0.001	0.343 to 1.271	Reference 0.693 ± 0.136	0.272	< 0.001	0.425 to 0.961
Salary ≤ min > min	Reference -0.347 ± 0.103	-0.197	0.001	-0.549 to -0.145	Reference -0.244 ± 0.101	-0.129	0.017	-0.443 to -0.044

Table VII – Predictive variables of adherence (to the total of self-care activities and to the total of non-pharmacological self-care activities), according to multiple linear regression analyses.

B = unstandardized coefficient; SE = standard error; β = standardized coefficient; CI = confidence interval; min = minimum

Discussion

This research assessed the relationship between health literacy and adherence to therapy, adjusting for possible confounders. The main finding was that better HL was associated with increased adherence to overall self-care activities and to non-pharmacological therapy independently of salary and insulin therapy.

As in other researches carried out in Portugal^{27,36}, the sample presents mostly inadequate health literacy (68,4%). Although not statistically significant, it has been found that older patients tend to be less health literate, according to what has already been reported in other studies^{11,23}. The elderly are more vulnerable in the context of HL and are also the ones with the highest prevalence of T2DM, so they deserve greater attention in the need of the development of skills that allow them to properly manage their disease. This poses the need for primary care teams to address this ambience with appropriate instruments of enablement.

Our results showed that, beyond having better HL, also being insulin-treated or earning less than the national minimum wage were related to increased adherence to overall self-care and non-pharmacological activities. Interestingly, adherence declined if participants earned more than the national minimum wage. Therefore, having lower wages does not seem to be a constraint to greater adherence to important self-care activities, at least to the non-pharmacological ones.

Regarding the different dimensions of self-care activities, physical activity had the lowest adherence, with a mean of less than 2 days per week. It is known that physical activity is one of the biggest challenges to diabetic patients³⁷. We did not find a significant correlation between HL and physical activity but a large study of 3241 participants concluded that low HL was associated with insufficient physical activity³⁸.

Self-monitoring of blood glucose levels was also a low adherence dimension (2,38 days per week), similar to the results of another study done in Portugal that reported that only 33,6% of diabetic patients performed daily monitorization of blood glucose²⁸. However, according to the newest evidence-based recommendation of Portuguese Medical Association, the self-monitorization of blood glucose should be discontinued in non-insulin-treated T2DM patients³⁹. In fact, self-monitoring of blood glucose is only effective if the patient is able to interpret the result and take an appropriate attitude, which is unlikely to occur in a patient with inadequate HL.

The average value of the last HbA1c measurement was $7.03 \pm 1.18\%$, slightly higher than the 6,8% previously reported by the National Diabetes Observatory for Family Health Units⁴. Although, without significance, the last value of HbA1c tends to decrease with higher HL, according to what has been reported by other studies^{12,21,22}.

The relationship between HL and adherence to therapy remains controversial in the existing literature⁴⁰. Most studies regarding this subject focused on the pharmacological dimension of adherence, with mixed results. Although not statistically significant, we found that people with more HL tended to adhere less to medication. The same result has been reported by another study done in Portugal²⁷, even though different measurement tools were used and the sample was smaller and had a majority of females, contrary to ours. Another research in USA concluded that for one point increase on HL score, participants were 1,8 times more likely to optimally take medications, but the sample had very high levels of HL¹⁷. Osborn et al. found that HL was not only associated with adherence but also reduced the effect of race on it¹⁹. Fan et al. investigated the relationship between HL and medication nonadherence distinguishing between unintentional and intentional nonadherence²⁰. While the first one is about forgetting to take medication, the second one is about deciding not to take it. Interestingly, they found that limited HL was associated with increased unintentional nonadherence, but not with intentional nonadherence and proposed that distinguishing them when assessing nonadherence may elucidate the inconsistent results in the literature²⁰.

Aside from pharmacological adherence, patients with diabetes are expected to follow a complex set of other non-pharmacological self-care activities that are essential in the selfmanagement of diabetes, including following a healthy diet, being physically active, monitoring blood glucose levels, not smoking and following foot care guidelines³⁵. Less researches focused on this multidimensionality of adherence but also had conflicting conclusions. A study with methodological similarities to ours concluded that HL is not directly related to self-care²⁵, but their sample is mostly of African American participants and they used a different tool to measure HL. Another research conducted in Iran, using a questionnaire that assessed HL in five dimensions concluded that higher HL was positively associated with all dimensions of health promoting behaviors, among which were diet, physical activity, foot control and blood sugar control⁴¹.

Similarly, our study demonstrated that better HL is related to increased adherence to non-pharmacological therapy and specifically to foot care. This is important because it is known that improving self-care activities can significantly reduce the chance of developing long-term diabetes complications⁸. One of these complications is foot disease, an important cause of increased morbidity and mortality among patients with diabetes mellitus that results

in elevated expenses with important economic burden⁴². Our findings suggest that improving HL may mitigate these problems by increasing the care that diabetic patients have with their feet.

The discrepancies in the literature on HL and adherence to therapy are evident. Different sample characteristics and the diversity of methodologies and measurement tools used are potential sources of inconsistent results. Most HL assessment tools focus only on reading skills, such as the one used in this research, and do not capture the complexity of the construct of HL. Nutbeam⁴³ described three levels of HL: functional HL, related to communication of information; interactive HL, which is about the development of personal skills and critical HL, related to personal and community empowerment. A lot of research only considered functional HL, but others used instruments that assessed more skills, such as the one conducted in Iran⁴¹. The use of instruments to more fully assess HL is limited by lack of validation for different populations and longer administration time. When data are collected in a clinical setting, it is important that the instruments are brief and practical in order to avoid withdrawal of participants. Further investigation should focus on the development or adaptation of instruments that allow a complete assessment of HL-related skills and still have a practical use in clinical care.

Another potential source of discrepancy is that different studies do not adjust for the same potential confounders. This may not be inadequate, considering that different populations have social and cultural beliefs and specificities that can influence health literacy and adherence to therapy differently. Some studies adjust for all covariates that are referred as confounders in the existing literature. We opted to first assess which variables were significantly correlated with self-care activities or with HL, and those were the ones used in our linear regression analyses, so that the models predicting adherence to therapy were customized to the characteristics of our sample.

Although current findings are not consistent about the association between HL and adherence to therapy, some studies have advanced to a practical approach. An intervention program was developed in a primary care unit in Portugal, based on the education of patients with T2DM, with the objectives of promoting HL and a more effective management of their disease. With only four educational sessions, there was a statistically significant improvement in knowledge, self-care activities and HL level⁴⁴. The sample was not representative, but the results showed the importance of therapeutic patient education, which has already demonstrated to improve clinical, lifestyle and psycho-social outcomes and is now considered a crucial element in the management of T2DM⁴⁵.

While there is no conclusive evidence regarding the role of HL in adherence to therapy, it is important to remember that inadequate HL is a barrier to obtaining and understanding health information to make appropriate health decisions. This should not be only a physicians and nurses' concern but also for all health care professionals and managers, so that a change with impact can be made. One should not forget the systemic approach to this disease, namely the impact of empowering the person and the family about the necessary changes both nutritional and in physical activity.

This research had some limitations. The sample was not totally random because the family doctors who collaborated and collected the data were contacted by the researchers and the patients were recruited from regular consultations, which implies a selection bias. On the other hand, the final sample does not exactly correspond to that calculated as ideal in the methodology, since no data were collected in the region of Alentejo, because the authorization request to do it was never answered. In addition, in some Family Health Units it was not possible to recruit all the necessary patients in the period in which data were collected and some participants did not have valid data. Nevertheless, the sample presented a distribution similar to the national distribution of patients with T2DM in Portugal³¹, so we assume it is approximately representative of this population.

Moreover, data were collected by 13 different family doctors in health units of each region, which can lead to an interobserver bias. We tried to avoid this by sending detailed written instructions. Another limitation was that the tool we used to measure HL, METER, only assesses reading skills and HL encompasses other important competences that were not assessed. Besides this, METER has two different scoring methods to perform statistical analysis – the adjusted one, which is scoring at least 35 in 40 of the real words and 18 in 30 of "non-words" and the unadjusted one, used in this study, which is the number of words correctly recognized. Only the first one is validated in the Portuguese population, but the second one was used in the original version of METER with highly similar results and was considered a faster and easier scoring method for clinical settings³⁵.

Furthermore, we investigated self-reported adherence, which may be a source of biased data. However, most evidence indicates that this type of measure corresponds moderately to other adherence measures and can provide actionable information, being preferred in the context of clinical care⁴⁶. Finally, this was a cross-sectional study, so it does not provide information on the temporal relationship nor the causality between the variables. Even so, it allows us to have a picture of the reality of the Portuguese population with T2DM regarding HL and adherence to therapy. Future research should investigate the longitudinal

effect of more fully assessed HL on adherence to therapy and its impact on diabetes outcomes, not only on metabolic control but also on the prevention of complications.

Conclusion

In this multicentric study, a better health literacy was associated with increased adherence to overall self-care activities and particularly to non-pharmacological therapy, after adjustment to socioeconomic and disease related variables. T2DM is strongly related to inadequate lifestyle, so an important approach to achieve its effective management through greater adherence to self-care behaviors is investing in health literacy improvement centered strategies.

We expect that these findings stimulate more research towards finding how to practically identify patients with low HL in the clinical setting and which projects should be implemented to cope with this obstacle to adequate self-care among diabetic patients.

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Annex I. Approval from the Region Health Administration of North





Projeto / Estudo n.º <u>02 / 2018</u> Data de Receção: <u>18 / 01 / 20</u>

PROJETO DE INVESTIGAÇÃO

Identificação do(s) investigador(es) do estudo

Nome Completo:

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Qualificação Académica:

Flávia Fernandes – Estudante do Mestrado Integrado em Medicina Joana Rodrigues - Mestrado Integrado em Medicina

Funções que desempenha: Interno Formação Específica em MGF Instituição: ACeS Póvoa de Varzim/Vila do Conde: USF Aqueduto (Joana Rodrigues)

Designação do Estudo: LITERACIA EM SAÚDE E ADESÃO À TERAPÊUTICA EM PESSOAS COM DIABETES TIPO 2

Área científica em que se enquadra o estudo: Diabetes Mellitus

Vigência do Estudo (Data de princípio e de fim): Setembro de 2017 a Abril de 2018

Tipo de análise (quantitativa, qualitativa): Estudo observacional, analítico, transversal e multicêntrico.

Palavras - chave: diabetes mellitus, literacia em saúde

Co-Investigador(es) (quando aplicável)

Nome(s) Completo(s):

Inês Rosendo, Faculdade de Medicina da Universidade de Coimbra e UCSP Fernão de Magalhães Luiz Miguel Santiago, Faculdade de Medicina da Universidade de Coimbra e USF Topázio Diogo Tavares Silva, USF Santa Cruz, ACES Oeste Sul

OUTROS PROFISSIONAIS ENVOLVIDOS (Exemplo: Orientador)

Nome(s) Completo(s): Instituição:





ACES GRANDE PORTO IV – Póvoa de Varzim/Vila do Conde Rua Dr. António José Sousa Pereira, S/N – 4480-807 VILA DO CONDE TEL + 351 252 299 030 FAX + 351 252 299 033 Annex I. Approval from the Region Health Administration of North





OUTRAS INFORMAÇÕES SOBRE ESTUDO

Objetivo Geral:

Determinar a relação entre a literacia em saúde e a adesão à terapêutica farmacológica e não farmacológica da pessoa com diabetes tipo 2.

Metodologia: aplicação de escalas de avaliação de literacia em saúde e de adesão à terapêutica, em amostra de conveniência até atingir um n=140, com idades e sexos de acordo com a distribuição nacional da população com Diabetes Mellitus tipo 2, em 3 Centros de Saúde (ARS Norte, Centro e LVT). As pessoas elegíveis serão informadas do âmbito do estudo e obter-se-á o consentimento informado. Realizar-se-á tratamento estatístico descritivo e inferencial dos dados, com relato de resultados obtidos e posterior estabelecimento das conclusões possíveis tendo em conta os dados.

Estudo de Investigação observacional, analítico, transversal e multicêntrico.

População alvo: Utentes inscritos nas USF em estudo.

Método de recolha de dados (anexar instrumento recolha): Dados do processo clínico, através do sistema de informação SClínico®; aplicação dos questionários aos utentes.

Descrição do que consiste a colaboração do ACeS:

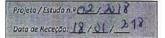
Acesso aos dados clínicos informáticos dos utentes selecionados para o estudo.

Todos os dados serão confidenciais e protegidos de modo a que não seja revelada a identidade dos participantes a não ser aos investigadores, se necessário, durante a realização do estudo e para essa finalidade.

Termo de Responsabilidade

Declaro assumir a liderança científica do projeto / estudo e as responsabilidades decorrentes da sua boa execução, bem como a dar feedback do estudo em causa e suas conclusões ao ACeS Grande Porto IV – Póvoa de Varzim | Vila do Conde.

Data: 14/0112018 Assinatura:







ACES GRANDE PORTO IV – Póvoa de Varzím/Vila do Conde Rua Dr. António José Sousa Pereira, S/N – 4480-807 VILA DO CONDE TEL + 351 252 299 030 FAX + 351 252 299 033 EMAIL acesnova-econde@csvcconde min-saude nt Annex I. Approval from the Region Health Administration of North



JUDITE NEVES DIRETORA EXBOLITIVA ACES GRANDE PORTO IV PONOADE VARZIMINITADO CONDE





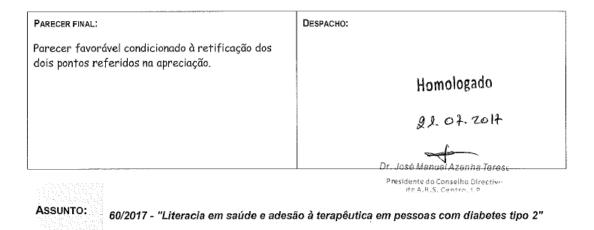
ACES GRANDE PORTO IV – Póvoa de Varzim/Vila do Conde Rua Dr. António José Sousa. Pereira, S/N – 4480-807 VILA DO CONDE TEL + 351 252 299 030 FAX + 351 252 299 033 EMAII. acesnovna-vconde@losvconde min-suude nt

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Annex II. Approval from the Region Health Administration of Centre



COMISSÃO DE ÉTICA PARA A SAÚDE



A diabetes tipo 2 é uma patologia com elevada prevalência em Portugal que possui, ainda, vários fatores de risco por esclarecer. No entanto, os mais relevantes são conhecidos, como é o caso do excesso de peso, a inatividade física e os erros nutricionais. Outros aspetos que também contribuem são a etnia, a história familiar de diabetes, a história pessoal de diabetes gestacional e a idade avançada.

A base do tratamento da diabetes tipo 2 consiste na adoção de uma dieta saudável, no aumento da atividade física e na manutenção de um peso corporal adequado. Adicionalmente estão disponíveis uma série de fármacos que auxiliam no controlo dos níveis de glicemia.

Os custos com estes doentes, para o orçamento disponibilizado para a saúde, são elevados.

A literacia em saúde tem vindo a ganhar interesse como conceito fundamental para um papel mais ativo da pessoa na sua doença. Sabe-se que existe uma ligação entre o nível de literacia e o estado de saúde do doente, uma vez que um baixo nível de literacia está relacionado com uma mais provável incompreensão de informação escrita e oral provida pelos profissionais de saúde, incapacidade de destreza para procurar serviços que possam ser necessários, impossibilidade de executar certos procedimentos, ou até mesmo seguir as indicações de uma prescrição. Annex II. Approval from the Region Health Administration of Centre



ADMINISTRAÇÃO REGIONAL DE SAÚDE DO CENTRO, I.P

COMISSÃO DE ÉTICA PARA A SAÚDE

Quanto ao estudo propriamente dito é interessante e bem estruturado. Dois pontos a assinalar: o estudo pretende ser desenvolvido em 3 instituições de saúde, das quais uma pertence à ARS Norte, outra à ARS LVT e, finalmente, uma à ARS Centro; assim, deverá ser requerida autorização às CES da ARS Norte e ARS LVT já que aquelas instituições de saúde caiem no âmbito de competência territorial de outras ARS; por último, este parecer fica condicionado à obtenção da autorização da CNPD; na realidade o investigador apenas nos submeteu o pedido de autorização, no entanto, esta Comissão necessita da parecer daquela entidade.

Coimbra, 19 de julho 2017

O Relator: Dra. Carla Barbosa

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O Presidente da CES: Prof. Dr. Fontes Ribeiro

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Annex III. Approval from the Region Health Administration of Lisbon and Tagus Valley



Exma. Senhora Dr. ª Flávia Fernandes flaviamachadofernandes@gmail.com

C/C:

Sua Referência

Sua Comunicação de

Nossa Referência 12381/CES/2017

Data 13.11.2017

Assunto: Literacia em saúde e adesão à terapêutica em pessoas com diabetes tipo 2.

A Comissão de Ética para a Saúde da ARSLVT, apreciou o projecto mencionado em epígrafe, na sua reunião da secção de investigação, no dia 3.11.2017, tendo sido emitido um parecer favorável.

Declaração de conflito de interesses: Nada a declarar

O Conselho Directivo, atento ao teor do parecer emitido, entende estarem reunidas as condições para a sua concretização.

Com os melhores cumprimentos,

O Vice - Presidente do Conselho Directivo

Av. Estados Unidos da América nº75-77, 1749-096 Lisboa Tel. +351 218 424 800 | Fax. +351 218 499 723 geral@arslvt.min-saude.pt | www.arslvt.min-saude.pt

Annex IV. Approval from the Region Health Administration of Algarve



ASSUNTO: Parecer da CES da ARS Algarve sobre pedido n.º 15/2018 "Literacia em Saúde e adesão à terapêutica na diabetes tipo 2: um estudo transversal em Portugal" Requerente: Simone Rodrigues

Serve o presente para informar V. Exa. que o projeto em questão mereceu parecer **Positivo** por parte da CES da ARS Algarve, e autorização do Conselho Diretivo em reunião de 10/01/2019, para a sua realização no ano 2018.

Solicita-se igualmente que, ao abrigo do disposto no n.º 23º da atual Declaração de Helsínquia, dê conhecimento à CES da ARS Algarve, I.P., de eventuais alterações ao protocolo de investigação e demais informações tidas por relevantes, bem como do relatório final com as conclusões do estudo.

Aproveitamos ainda para desejar o maior sucesso no desenvolvimento deste trabalho.

Com os melhores cumprimentos,

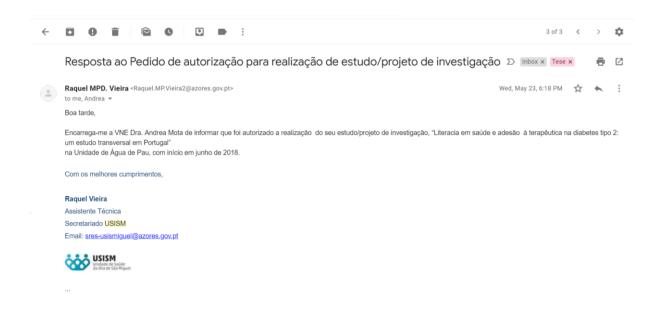
Tiago Botelho Vogal do Conselho Diretho da ARS Algarve, I.P

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Annex V. Approval from the Castelo Branco Local Health Unit



Annex VI. Approval from the São Miguel Island Health Unit



Annex VII. Approval from the Region Health Administration of Administrative Council of Hospital of Divino Espírito Santo

Thu, Jul 26, 2018 at 5:01 PM

Boa Tarde Dra. Simone Rodrigues,

Encarrega-me o Senhor Presidente do Conselho de Administração, Dr. Fernando Mesquita Gabriel, de informar V. Exa que foi autorizada, na Reunião de 25 de julho de 2018, a realização do Estudo Intitulado "Literacia em saúde e adesão à terapêutica na diabetes 2: um estudo transversal em Portugal", a realizar na Unidade de Saúde de Água de Pau, após o parecer favorável da Comissão de Ética para a Saúde.

Cumprimentos.

Mariana Albergaria Secretariado da Administração

mariana.rc.cabral@azores.gov.pt Telef. 296 203 703

Mariana RCAM. Cabral <<u>Mariana.RC.Cabral@azores.gov.pl</u>> To: "srodrigues.simone10@gmail.com" <srodrigues.simone10@gmail.com> Cc: "Helio TM. Oliveira" <<u>Helio.TM.Oliveira@azores.gov.pl</u>>

Annex VIII. Approval from the Health Service of Autonomous Region of Madeira (SESARAM, EPE)

H SESARAM ... bene (CES & CCI do SESARAM, EPE) saular **PARECER** nº 23/2018 Sobre o Pedido/Estudo: "Literacia em saúde e adesão à terapêutica na diabetes tipo 2: um estudo transversal em Portugal."

A – RELATÓRIO

- A.1 A Comissão de Ética para Saúde (CES) e a Comissão Científica para a Investigação (CCI) do Serviço de Saúde da Região Autónoma da Madeira, EPE (SESARAM, EPE), analisou o documento Nº 39 de 2018, pedido submetido Dra Simone Silveira Rodrigues, médica interna de Medicina Geral e Familiar, para realização do projecto de investigação "*Literacia em saúde e adesão à terapêutica na diabetes tipo 2: um estudo transversal em Portugal*". Trata-se de um estudo no âmbito da pré-graduação em Medicina Geral e Familiar, sob a orientação da professora assistente graduada Inês Rosende da Faculdade de Medicina da Universidade de Coimbra e co-orientação da assistente de Medicina geral e Familiar do Centro de Saúde do Bom Jesus, e que pretende determinar a relação entre a literacia em saúde e a adesão à terapêutica na pessoa com diabetes 2.
- A.2 O documento em análise é constituído por: ofício enviado ao Conselho de Administração do SESARAM, EPE, (E1876856) datado de 18 de Maio de 2018, que inclui questionário de submissão, questionário a aplicar, escalas de avaliação, termos dos directores dos serviços envolvidos, parecer dos orientadores, resumo do projecto de investigação, autorização nº 14443/2017 da Comissão Nacional da Protecção de Dados, parecer nº 059/CES/INV/2017 da Comissão de Ética para a Saúde da Administração Regional de Saúde do Centro, I.P. e informação ao sujeito.
- A.3 Trata-se de um estudo multicêntrico observacional que pretende determinar a relação entre a literacia em saúde e a adesão à terapêutica farmacológica e não farmacológica da pessoa com diabetes 2. Pretende ainda determinar a influência do nível socioeconómico e número de medicamentos tomados nesta relação, bem como o impacto destas variáveis no controlo metabólico. Serão realizadas

SESARAM, E.P.E. • Av. Luís de Camões, N.º 57 • 9004-514 • Funchal • Madeira Telef.: 291 709 600 • Fax: 291 709 601 • www.sesaram.pt • Contribuinte: 511 228 848

Annex VIII. Approval from the Health Service of Autonomous Region of Madeira (SESARAM, EPE)



- H-

entrevistas pelos médicos colaboradores do projecto, sendo os questionários de autopreenchimento, pretendendo-se incluir 10 utentes da região.

B – IDENTIFICAÇÃO DAS QUESTÕES COM EVENTUAIS IMPLICAÇÕES ÉTICAS

- B.1 Serão salvaguardados ao longo do estudo, os princípios éticos relativos ao mesmo, nomeadamente no que se refere ao anonimato dos utentes, e da confidencialidade da informação.
- B.2 Reconhece-se o interesse prático nos resultados, sendo que a metodologia utilizada salvaguarda o direito dos utentes envolvidos.

C – IDENTIFICAÇÃO DAS QUESTÕES COM EVENTUAIS IMPLICAÇÕES CIENTÍFICAS

- C.1 Serão salvaguardados os princípios básicos da investigação clínica, no que respeita a clareza de exposição dos objectivos e hipótese subjacente, interesse e inovação, metodologia e desenho do estudo.
- C.2 Reconhece-se a validade científica e interesse prático do estudo proposto, cuja qualidade e rigor devem ser assegurados no decorrer da investigação.

D - CONCLUSÃO

- A CES/SESARAM, EPE deliberou emitir **Parecer Favorável** por não se colocarem guaisquer questões de ordem ética.
- A CCI/SESARAM, EPE decidiu emitir **Parecer Favorável** por estarem cumpridos os princípios básicos das Boas Práticas Clínicas na Investigação.

SESARAM, E.P.E. • Av. Luis de Camões, N.º 57 • 9004-514 • Funchal • Madeira Tetef.: 291 709 600 • Fax: 291 709 601 • www.sesaram.pt • Contribuinte: 511 228 84E Annex VIII. Approval from the Health Service of Autonomous Region of Madeira (SESARAM, EPE)

::... H SESARA Aprovado em reunião dia 25 de Junho Aprovado após avaliação pela CCI. de 2018 da CES por unanimidade. O presidente da CES/SESARAM, EPE A responsável/do CCI/SESARAM, EPE 5 land Ricarde Santos) (Paula Pinto) ÉTICA EGIONAL DESP

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Annex IX. Authorization of the National Commission of Data Protection



Proc. n.º 20990/ 2017 1

Autorização n.º 14443/ 2017

Flávia Machado Fernandes notificou à Comissão Nacional de Protecção de Dados (CNPD) um tratamento de dados pessoais com a finalidade de realizar um Estudo Clínico sem Intervenção, denominado Literacia em saúde e adesão à terapêutica em pessoas com diabetes tipo 2.

A investigação é multicêntrica, decorrendo, em Portugal, nos centros de investigação identificados na notificação.

Existe justificação específica, validada pela Comissão de Ética Competente (CEC), para o tratamento do dado pessoal raça/etnia.

O participante é identificado por um código especificamente criado para este estudo, constituído de modo a não permitir a imediata identificação do titular dos dados; designadamente, não são utilizados códigos que coincidam com os números de identificação, iniciais do nome, data de nascimento, número de telefone, ou resultem de uma composição simples desse tipo de dados. A chave da codificação só é conhecida do(s) investigador(es).

É recolhido o consentimento expresso do participante ou do seu representante legal.

A informação é recolhida diretamente do titular.

As eventuais transmissões de informação são efetuadas por referência ao código do participante, sendo, nessa medida, anónimas para o destinatário.

A CNPD já se pronunciou na Deliberação n.º 1704/2015 sobre o enquadramento legal, os fundamentos de legitimidade, os princípios aplicáveis para o correto cumprimento da Lei n.º 67/98, de 26 de outubro, alterada pela Lei n.º 103/2015, de 24 de agosto, doravante LPD, bem como sobre as condições e limites aplicáveis ao tratamento de dados efetuados para a finalidade de investigação clínica.

No caso em apreço, o tratamento objeto da notificação enquadra-se no âmbito daquela deliberação e o responsável declara expressamente que cumpre os limites e condições aplicáveis por força da LPD e da Lei n.º 21/2014, de 16 de abril, alterada

Annex IX. Authorization of the National Commission of Data Protection

Proc. n.º 20990/ 2017 2



pela Lei n.º 73/2015, de 27 de junho – Lei da Investigação Clínica –, explicitados na Deliberação n.º 1704/2015.

O fundamento de legitimidade é o consentimento do titular.

A informação tratada é recolhida de forma lícita, para finalidade determinada, explícita e legitima e não é excessiva – cf. alíneas a), b) e c) do n.º 1 do artigo 5.º da LPD.

Assim, nos termos das disposições conjugadas do n.º 2 do artigo 7.º, da alínea a) do n.º 1 do artigo 28.º e do artigo 30.º da LPD, bem como do n.º 3 do artigo 1.º e do n.º 9 do artigo 16.º ambos da Lei de Investigação Clínica, com as condições e limites explicitados na Deliberação da CNPD n.º 1704/2015, que aqui se dão por reproduzidos, autoriza-se o presente tratamento de dados pessoais nos seguintes termos:

Responsável – Flávia Machado Fernandes

Finalidade – Estudo Clínico sem Intervenção, denominado Literacia em saúde e adesão à terapêutica em pessoas com diabetes tipo 2

Categoria de dados pessoais tratados – Código do participante; idade/data de nascimento; género; raça/etnia; composição do agregado familiar sem identificação dos membros; dados da história clínica; dados dados de exame físico; dados de meios complementares de diagnóstico; medicação prévia concomitante; relativos à atividade profissional com conexão com a Investigação

Exercício do direito de acesso - Através dos investigadores, presencialmente

Comunicações, interconexões e fluxos transfronteiriços de dados pessoais identificáveis no destinatário – Não existem

Prazo máximo de conservação dos dados – A chave que produziu o código que permite a identificação indireta do titular dos dados deve ser eliminada 5 anos após o fim do estudo.

Da LPD e da Lei de Investigação Clínica, nos termos e condições fixados na presente Autorização e desenvolvidos na Deliberação da CNPD n.º 1704/2015, resultam Annex IX. Authorization of the National Commission of Data Protection



Proc. n.º 20990/ 2017 3

obrigações que o responsável tem de cumprir. Destas deve dar conhecimento a todos os que intervenham no tratamento de dados pessoais.

Lisboa, 28-12-2017

A Presidente Filica

Filipa Calvão

CONSENTIMENTO INFORMADO, LIVRE E ESCLARECIDO PARA PARTICIPAÇÃO EM INVESTIGAÇÃO

de acordo com a Declaração de Helsínquia¹ e a Convenção de Oviedo²

Por favor, leia com atenção a seguinte informação. Se achar que algo está incorrecto ou que não está claro, não hesite em solicitar mais informações. Se concorda com a proposta que lhe foi feita, queira assinar este documento.

<u>Título do estudo</u>: Literacia em saúde e adesão à terapêutica na diabetes tipo 2: um estudo transversal em Portugal

Enquadramento: Estudo clínico sem intervenção, multicêntrico em UCSPs/USF do Norte, Centro, Lisboa e Vale to Tejo, Alentejo, Algarve, Madeira e Açores. Feito no âmbito da tese de mestrado de Simone Silveira Rodrigues, da Faculdade de Medicina da Universidade de Coimbra, orientada pela Prof. Dra Inês Rosendo e Prof. Dr. Luiz Santiago.

Explicação do estudo: Estudo efetuado numa única consulta através do preenchimento de 2 Escalas – uma sobre literacia em Saúde e outra relativa à adesão terapêutica. A primeira consiste na selecção das palavras que são termos reais e a segunda em assinalar em quantos dias (de zero a sete) teve/praticou o comportamento descrito relativo aos seguintes temas: alimentação, atividade física e medicação. Serão selecionados os doentes que aceitem participar no estudo e com idades e sexos de acordo com a distribuição nacional de pessoas com diabetes, até perfazer um total de 400. Serão recolhidas informações quanto a idade, género, grau de formação, salário (superior ou inferior ao salário mínimo nacional), se vive sozinho ou não. Do processo clínico, recolher-se-á o último valor de HbA1c medido e o número total de medicamentos tomados, quer para a diabetes, quer para outras patologias, conjuntamente com o número de tomas por dia e se realiza insulinoterapia ou não.

<u>Condições e financiamento</u>: o próprio investigador financiará o estudo e não há pagamento às instituições onde decorrerá o estudo, nem a investigadores ou participantes, sem compensação de despesas de deslocação. A participação será voluntária e não haverá prejuízos assistenciais ou outros caso não queira participar. O estudo foi aprovado por comissão de ética da Faculdade de Medicina da Universidade de Coimbra.

<u>Confidencialidade e anonimato</u>: Cada investigador terá uma base de identificação dos seus utentes, identificação esta codificada nos dados em excel que serão enviados ao investigador principal. Será pedida autorização à Comissão Nacional de Protecção de Dados, artºs 27º e 28º da Lei 67/98 de 26 de Outubro.

Assinatura/s: Simone Rod Nigues.

Declaro ter lido e compreendido este documento, bem como as informações verbais que me foram fornecidas pela/s pessoa/s que acima assina/m. Foi-me garantida a possibilidade de, em qualquer altura, recusar participar neste estudo sem qualquer tipo de consequências. Desta forma, aceito participar neste estudo e permito a utilização dos dados que de forma voluntária forneço, confiando em que apenas serão utilizados para esta investigação e nas garantias de confidencialidade e anonimato que me são dadas pelo/a investigador/a.

Data: /..... /.....

> ESTE DOCUMENTO É COMPOSTO DE 1 PÁGINA/S E FEITO EM DUPLICADO: UMA VIA PARA O/A INVESTIGADOR/A, OUTRA PARA A PESSOA QUE CONSENTE

^a http://portal.arsnorte.min-saude.pt/portal/page/portal/ARSNorte/Comiss%C3%A3o%20de%20%C3%89tica/Ficheiros/Declaracao_Helsinguia_2008.pdf

² http://dre.pt/pdf1sdip/2001/01/002A00/00140036.pdf

Annex XI. Sociodemographic and disease-related questionnaire

Literacia em saúde e adesão à terapêutica na diabetes tipo 2: um estudo transversal em Portugal

QUESTIONÁRIO

Assinalar com um (x) nos quadrados ou escrever

Código de identificação:
Sexo: feminino masculino
Idade:
Habilitações literárias: 4º ano 6º ano 9º ano 12º ano Licenciatura
Profissão:
Habitação: Vive sozinho Vive acompanhado
Vencimento: Salário superior ao mínimo nacional Salário inferior ao mínimo nacional
Medicação para a Diabetes Mellitus: comprimidos insulina ambos
Cumpre a medicação? sim não
Classes de antidiabéticos orais prescritas:
Metformina
Inibidores DPP-IV
Inibidores SGLT-2
Sulfonilureias
Número total de fármacos diferentes que constam na medicação crónica, por dia:

Valor da última HbA1c:	

Agradecemos a sua colaboração!

Annex XII. Portuguese version of Medical Term Recognition Test (METER)

ESCALA METER

A lista seguinte inclui alguns termos que existem na linguagem médica. Alguns desses termos estão relacionados com partes ou funções do corpo, com tipos de doenças ou com coisas que podem melhorar ou piorar a saúde. A lista também contém algumas palavras que podem parecer ou soar como termos reais, mas que não existem.

À medida que for lendo esta lista, coloque uma cruz "X" ao lado das palavras que são termos reais. Não tente adivinhar. Coloque uma cruz "X" ao lado das palavras só quando tiver a certeza que existem mesmo.

Imígdala	Jezum
Artrite	Súrgico
Obesidade	Malorias
Gripe	Cancro
Nervosite	Alcoolidade
Sífilis	Antibióticos
Potássio	Antideprimido
Hormonas	Colite
Nervos	Diabetes
Anquia	Otorringologista
Cástula	Nósea
Ingesto	Impetigo
Intestigo	Menstrual
Exercício	Gatarral
Pústula	Convulsão
Cerpes	Apêndice
Rim	Abdominável
Urgência	Enxuteca
Xirope	Dose
Menopausa	Hemorróidas
Diagnóstico	Testículo
Candíase	Olho
Icterícia	Obstérico
Bexiga	Sonambulação
Aborto	Drenação
Hepatite	Sexualmente
Enatoma	Purisia
Unhal	Fibrómico
Asma	Medicação
Inflamatório	Micróbios
Anemia	Gonorreia
Linsoma	Estómico
Ceresiana	Fadiga
Stress	Osteoporose
Algérico	Obstipação

Annex XIII. Portuguese version of The Summary of Diabetes Self-Care Activities questionnaire

ESCALA DE ATIVIDADES DE AUTO-CUIDADO COM A DIABETES

Versão traduzida e adaptada para português de Summary of Diabetes Selfcare Activities de Glasgow R, Toobert D, Hampson S (2000), por Bastos F e Lopes C (2004)										
As perguntas que se seguem questionam-no acerca dos cuidados com a diabetes durante os últin	nos	sete	dias	s. Se	est	eve	doer	nte		
durante os últimos sete dias, por favor lembre-se dos últimos sete dias em que não esteve doente.										
1. ALIMENTAÇÃO GERAL	Número de dias									
1.1. Em quantos dos últimos SETE DIAS seguiu uma alimentação saudável?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7		
1.2. Em média, durante o último mês, quantos DIAS POR SEMANA seguiu um plano alimentar	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7		
recomendado por algum profissional de saúde?	-	-	-	-		-	_	-		
1.3. Em quantos dos últimos SETE DIAS comeu cinco ou mais peças de fruta e/ ou doses de vegetais (incluindo os da sopa)?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7		
2. ALIMENTAÇÃO ESPECÍFICA										
2.1. Em quantos dos últimos SETE DIAS comeu carnes vermelhas (vaca, porco, cabrito)?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7		
2.2. Em quantos dos últimos SETE DIAS comeu pão acompanhando a refeição do almoço ou jantar?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7		
	0	1	2	3	4	2	0	/		
2.3. Em quantos dos últimos SETE DIAS misturou, no acompanhamento da refeição, dois ou mais dos seguintes alimentos: arroz, batatas, massa, feijão?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7		
2.4. Em quantos dos últimos SETE DIAS consumiu mais que um copo, de qualquer tipo de bebida				2		-	~	-		
alcoólica, às principais refeições?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7		
2.5. Em quantos dos últimos SETE DIAS consumiu qualquer tipo de bebida alcoólica, fora das refeições?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7		
2.6. Em quantos dos últimos SETE DIAS comeu alimentos doces como bolos, pastéis, compotas, mel.		\vdash								
marmelada ou chocolates?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7		
3. ATIVIDADE FÍSICA										
3.1. Em quantos dos últimos SETE DIAS praticou atividade física durante pelo menos 30 minutos?		1	2	_	4	E	c	-7		
(Minutos totais de atividade contínua, inclusive andar)	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7		
3.2. Em quantos dos últimos SETE DIAS participou numa sessão de exercício físico específico (como										
nadar, caminhar, andar de bicicleta) para além da atividade física que faz em casa ou como parte do	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7		
seu trabalho? 4. MONITORIZAÇÃO DE GLICÉMIA										
4.1. Em quantos dos últimos SETE DIAS avaliou o açúcar no sangue?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7		
4.2. Quantos dias por semana lhe foi recomendado que avaliasse o açúcar no sangue pelo seu médico enfermeiro ou farmacêutico?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7		
médico, enfermeiro ou farmacêutico? 5. CUIDADOS COM OS PÉS										
5.1. Em quantos dos últimos SETE DIAS examinou os seus pés?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7		
5.2. Em quantos dos últimos SETE DIAS lexaminou os seus pes?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7		
	0	-	-	3		-	-	7		
5.3. Em quantos dos últimos SETE DIAS secou os espaços entre os dedos do pé, depois de os lavar?		1	2	5	4	5	6	/		
6. MEDICAMENTOS	_									
6.1. Em quantos dos últimos SETE DIAS, tomou, conforme lhe foi indicado, os seus medicamentos da diabetes?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7		
OU (se insulina e comprimidos)										
6.2. Em quantos dos últimos SETE DIAS tomou, conforme lhe foi indicado, injeções de insulina?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7		
6.3. Em quantos dos últimos SETE DIAS tomou o número indicado de comprimidos da diabetes?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7		
7. HÁBITOS TABÁGICOS										
7.1. Você fumou um cigarro, ainda que só uma passa, durante os últimos SETE DIAS? Não	Sim									
7.2. Se sim, quantos cigarros fuma, habitualmente, num dia? Número de cigarros:										
7.3. Quando fumou o seu último cigarro?										
Nunca fumou										
Há mais de dois anos atrás										
Um a dois anos atrás Quatro a doze meses atrás										
Um a três meses atrás										
No último mês										
Hoje										
Nota: As questões 2.1 a 2.7 devem ser recodificadas invertendo a pontuação: 0=7; 1=6; 2=5; 3=4; 4=3; 5=2; 6=1;										
O nível de adesão, por dimensão, é obtido pela soma dos itens e dividido pelo nº destes; os resultados (médias) são expressos em dias por semana.										