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Title:

Influence of the Covid-19 Period on Competences in Higher Education

Abstract

Within this pandemic associated with Covid-19, psychological health occupies a prominent place as a result of a situation of forced isolation. Impacts can lead to an increase in mental health disorders as well as a set of adaptive reactions inherent to the recovery. Cooperation is conceived as the ability to jointly operationalize knowledge, attitudes and skills with a view to achieving a common purpose; and assertiveness is conceived as a bilateral behavior that emphasizes the importance of considering the desires, thoughts and feelings of both the sender and the recipient of the assertive message, predictive of academic success. In this line, the main objective of this communication is to present the results of the application of the Global Cooperation Assessment Scale (EAGC) and the findings levels of the Global Assertiveness Assessment Scale (EAGA). The study used a non-probabilistic sample for convenience of 101 Portuguese higher education students. EAGC and EAGA are a self-registration closed-ended Likert type 5 points, closed-response scales that allows assessing the degree of competence in respondents' cooperation and assertiveness. Both Scales were administered *online* in spring semester 2019/2020, with the link to the questionnaire being made available to students the computer platform ensuring the response of a single survey per respondent whose participation in the study was voluntary. The treatment of the information, as well as its statistical analysis, was supported by the R software (R Core Team, 2019), having been assured the confidentiality and anonymity of the respondents. Sociodemographic variables were also used, which seemed promising in contextualizing, interpreting, and discussing the results. The value of the sample mean obtained at EAGC=35 (± 6.5), thus revealing a high capacity for cooperation and in the EAGA=31 (± 5.53), thus revealing a high assertive competence who attend higher education.

Keywords: Assessment; EGAC; EGAA; Education; Psychology