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#### **Evaluation of the quality of the records of Barthel Index in a Portuguese primary healthcare unit**

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**Background & Aim:** Between 2001 and 2011 the elderly population in Portugal increased 19,4%, of which a high number are both physically and social dependent. Therefore it's essential that the GP pays attention to this vulnerable group among his patients, in order to identify those who might need special care and support. The aim of this study was to evaluate the quality of the registrations of Barthel Index, included in the Portuguese clinical data system, among patients aged 65 or more of one Primary Care Unit.

**Methods:** Dimension studied: Technical Scientific. Sample: Patients aged 65 or more from a Primary Care Unit. Data source: Clinical Records. Two evaluations were conducted, one in January 2015 and a second in January 2016. Evaluation: intern and retrospective. Criteria: Barthel Index registration in the last 3 years. Quality standards: Insufficient (<45%), Sufficient: (45-<65%), Good (65-<85) Very Good (85%). Intervention: Educational and structural.

**Results:** 1207 (60,3%) out of 2003 patients aged 65 or more had been evaluated with the Barthel Index in the first assessment, which was considered Sufficient according to the quality standard established by the Unit. By the next assessment one year after, 1321 (66,5%) out of 1988 patients had Barthel Index recorded, which corresponded to an improvement in the number of registrations and placed the results in the level of Good.

**Conclusions:** the results of the first evaluation showed the need to emphasize the importance of this parameter in the identification of functional status of the elderly in order to promote proper healthcare, namely home visits. After implementing some corrective measures, by the second evaluation a considerable increase in the number of records was found. The authors consider that these results could still be better and therefore a further evaluation will take place in July 2016.