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## Assessment tools of ageism – Literature review

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### *Aim*

This review aims to summarize and describe assessment tools of ageism.

### *Theoretical framework*

Ageism refers to stereotypes, prejudices and discriminatory expressions or attitudes towards older people. The World Health Organization defines ageism as a multidimensional, social phenomenon and considers it a public health problem. The aging population is increasing and this topic needs attention. Research results show that many older people experience certain forms of ageism. Currently, there are many assessment tools that measure different aspects and dimensions of discrimination against people in old age.

## ***Methods***

Qualitative analysis and interpretation of accessible research studies. We searched for scientific studies focused on ageism using a combination of keywords (Ageism; Age Discrimination; Ageing; Measure; Assess; Tool; Scale; Questionnaire) and Boolean operators. The search was conducted from July to August 2024 in Pubmed, ScienceDirect and Web of Science databases according to PRISMA recommendations. The inclusion criteria were: a) empirical studies in English, b) studies at the abstract level; c) full-text studies, d) studies in which one of the assessment tools was used; e) scientific studies from 2015. A total of 696 studies and 2 review articles were searched. After removing duplicate studies, we included 81 studies in the final analysis.

## ***Results***

We identified 11 assessment tools of ageism. Many of them have been validated in several languages and show good psychometric properties. They differ in the number of items, the length of administration and the aspect they assess (knowledge, attitudes, behavior, beliefs, opinions). The most frequently used measuring instruments include: Kogan's Attitudes Toward Older People Scale (n=22; abbreviation: KOAP; 34 items), The Facts on Aging Quiz (n=19; abbreviation: FAQ; 50 items), Fraboni Scale of Ageism (n=19; abbreviation: FSA, 29 items); Relating to Older People Examination (n= 5; abbreviation: ROPE, 20 items) and Ambivalent Ageism Scale (n= 5; abbreviation: AAS; 13 items). They are used to evaluate the attitudes in various social groups towards the elderly (most often health workers - doctors and nurses, students) and to and self-evaluation on views on ageing of the elderly. We also found newly created scales: The Perceived Ageism Questionnaire (abbreviation: PAQ; 8 items), The Everyday Ageism Scale (abbreviation: none, 10 items) and WHO-ageism scale (at present conceptualisation and item generation).

## ***Theoretical relevance of the work / Conclusion***

The contribution is a follow-up to the upcoming research in Slovakia, the first stage of which is focused on the investigation of current assessment tools of ageism. Existing tools available and used in research for many years. Due to the rising trend of ageism in contemporary society, there is a growing need to create new measurement tools that would take into account those aspects and dimensions that the original tools do not contain.

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