

# IJPS Interdisciplinary Journal of Partnership Studies

## Found in Translation: Lessons Learned From Using Partnership Principles When Working in Multiple Languages

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# Objectives

- Understand challenges and strengths associated with publishing a multilingual article in Spanish and English
- Consider applications of translational methods in your own settings
- Identify processes within your own settings that can be reimaged with a lens of partnership and discourse

# Subject Article and Acknowledgements

González Escalona, N., Torres Esperón, J.M., Rodríguez Washington, N., Villafaña Cruz, J.I., & Carasa Alvarez, R. (2021). Perspectives on Gender: An Investigative Study of Gender Equity in Children [Espejuelos para el género: Apuestas investigativas por la equidad en la infancia]. *Interdisciplinary Journal of Partnership Studies*, 8(2), Article 5. <https://doi.org/10.24926/ijps.v8i2.4324>

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# Perspectives on Gender: An Investigative Study of Gender Equity in Children [Espejuelos para el género: Apuestas investigativas por la equidad en la infancia].

This article by scholars from the University of Havana, Cuba, representing Health Science, Communication Science, and Sociology/Social Work, reports on research conducted in primary schools in Cuba, exploring how gender identities are consolidated through the influence of various socialization actors, particularly family, teachers, and the media.

# Foreground, not Background

- Purpose of scholarly publishing
- Culture of English as the default language in scholarly publishing
- History of the “Perspectives on Gender” article
- Existing models of translation

# Culture of English as the Default Language in Scholarly Publishing

- Stephanie's experience
- Currently, concerns remain about articles in languages other than English:
  - Relevance
  - Validity of references
  - Fluency
  - Cost
- Goal: Publish in all the languages in which scholars are writing.
- Vision: Model for translation and retro-translation that captures the self-work needed (reflecting on biases, stereotypes, cultural differences, and dialects) and the importance of teamwork: respect, collaboration, and meaningful discussions.

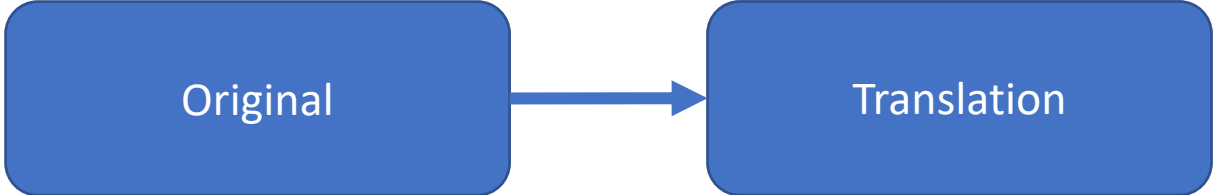
# History of “Perspectives on Gender” Article

- Cuba relationships: Teddie Potter (INANE connection)
- Cuban scholars are regarding machismo as a public health issue.
- *IJPS* has the resources to publish this article in two languages:
  - Partnership Principles guide us: gender equality, hierarchy of actualization
  - Community of Scholars – Editorial Board, colleagues, copy editors
  - Support from University of Minnesota Libraries: ample space, production editing
- Concerns
  - Cultural (gender)
  - Dialects
  - Finding scholars fluent in both languages

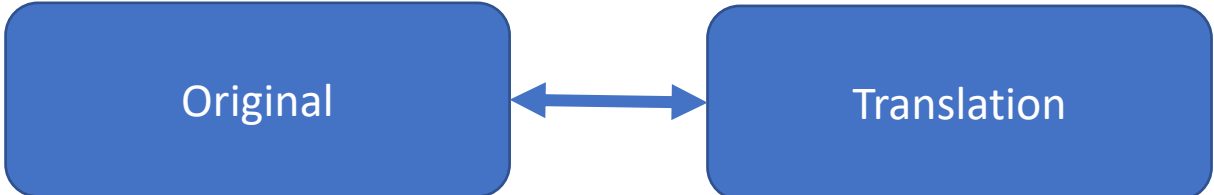
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# Translation Methods Within the Literature

## Forward Translation



## Retro-Translation (Back Translation)



## Additional Consideration for:

Translators

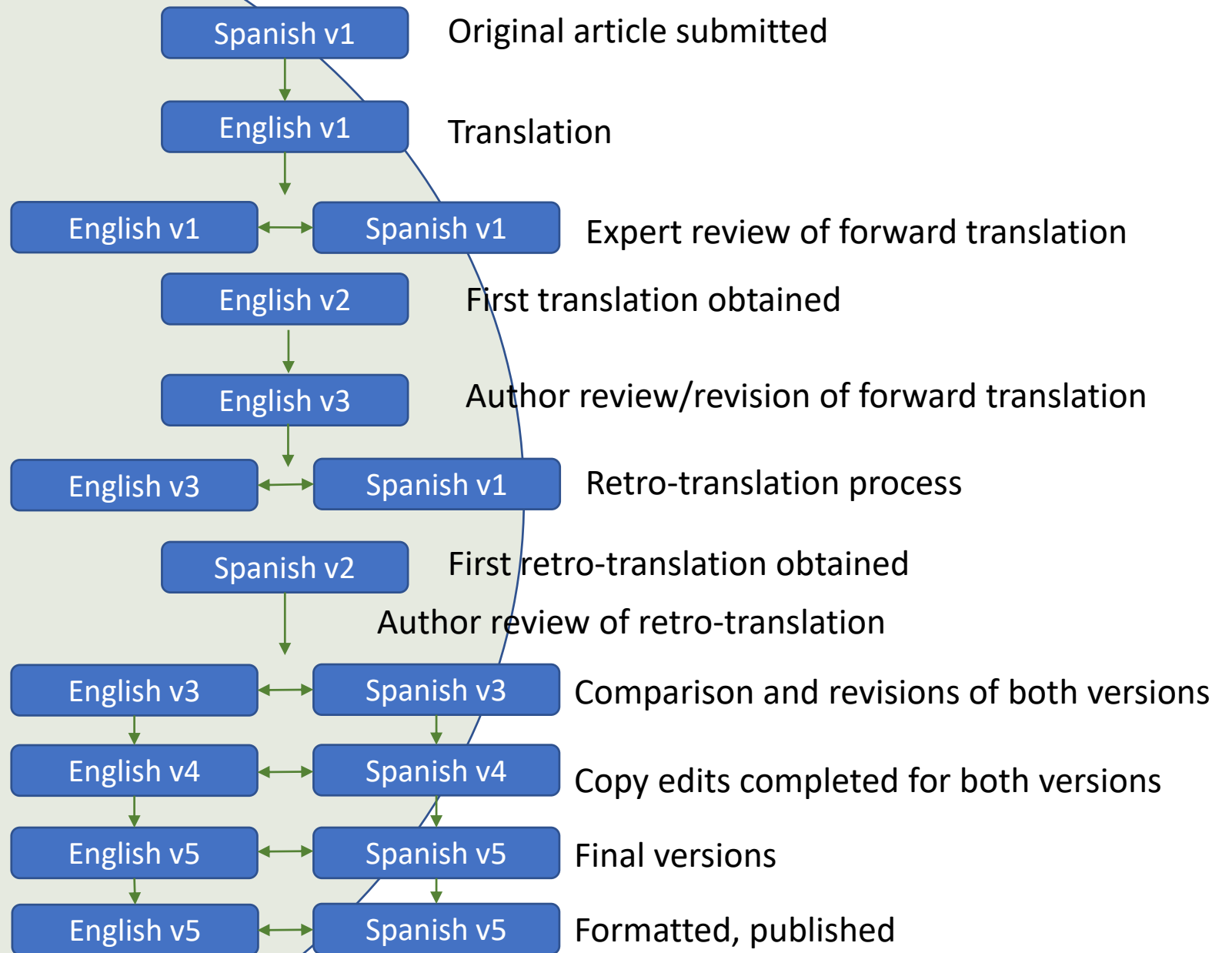
Content Experts

Context

Validation

Language Direction





# An Article from a Hispanic Culture

## **Gender:**

- Most nouns are gendered, and default is male.
- Pronouns are gendered - be cautious about English version gender-neutral.

## **Cultural:**

- Honor patriarchy even though it is antithetical to partnership (Happens in English too).
- Multigenerational homes
- Food
- Education system

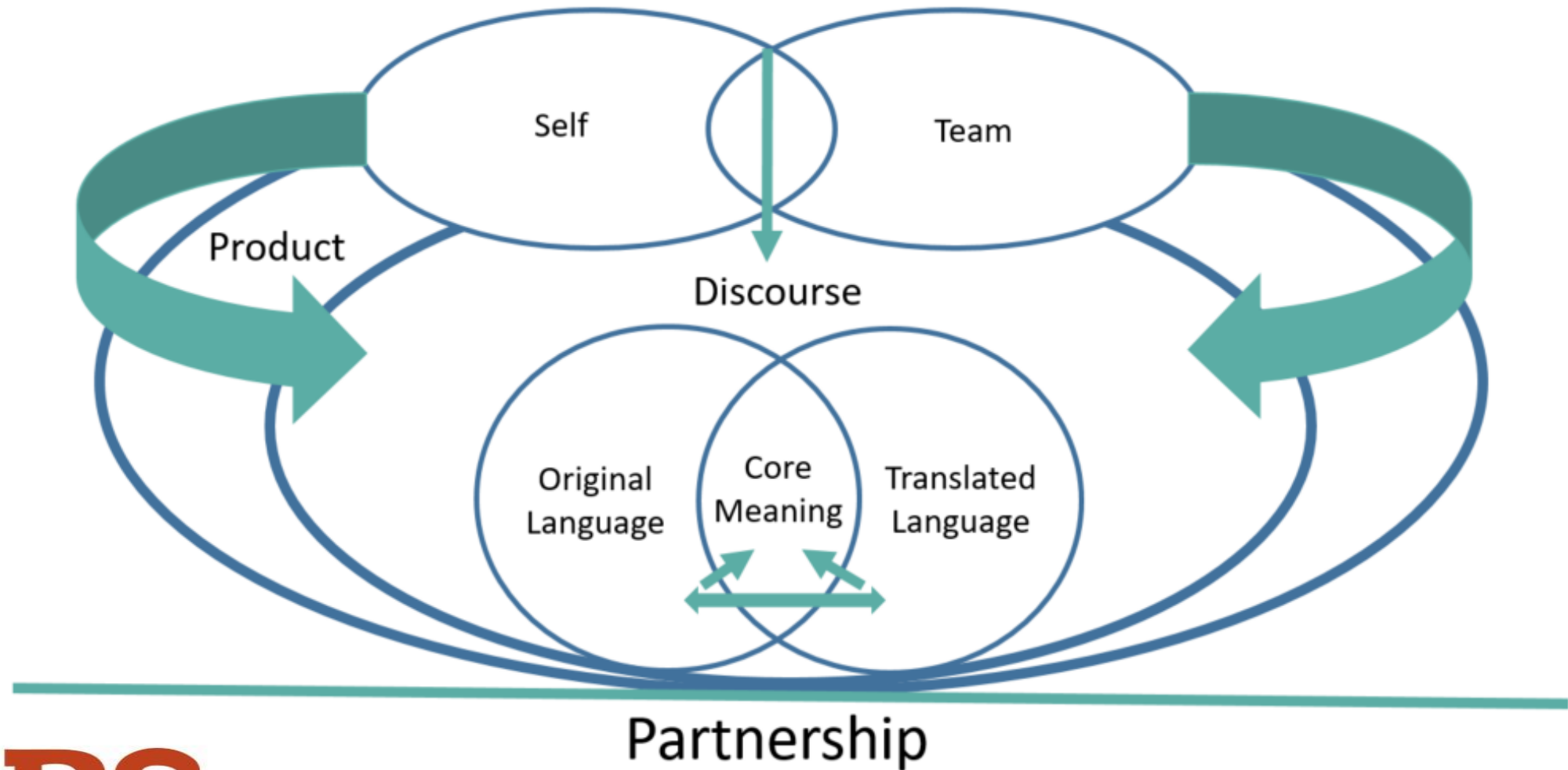
## **Dialects:**

- Spanish varies among countries.
- *Infantes* includes young children in Cuba, means baby in Panama

## **Awareness:**

- Current efforts to be inclusive.
- Bias, stereotypes, communication styles
- Power/hierarchy: Taking someone's document for editing makes them vulnerable.

# Proposed Model: Multilingual Scholarly Publication



# More about Proposed Model:

## This model:

- Captures the self-work needed: reflecting on biases, stereotypes, cultural differences, and dialects, as part of this work.
- Depicts the importance of teamwork: respect, collaboration, meaningful discussions.

**Goal:** Yield respectful discourse to move the knowledge from the original language to English and back, to reveal the core message.

**Article is the product/content**, but also models meta-messages, e.g.

- Participatory research methodology
- Inclusive language
- Attention to marginalized populations

**Foundation:** Meanwhile, the entire model is based in **partnership**.

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# Copy Editor: Advocate for Readers

Maintain standards of accuracy, clarity, completeness, with reader in mind.

Sequence:

- Received English version after peer review responded to.
- Lata and I did independent copy edits of whole article.
- I compiled our edits to create suggested copy edits of English version.
- Received responses to copy edits, incorporated into final English version.
- Composited English version.
- Composited Spanish version, with the 2 versions side by side, matching copy edits, headings, reference list, article title, author bios, copyright.
- Final details.

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# Partnership Process: It's in the Emails

## First pass: Suggested copy edits

- Gender order for boys and girls, girls and boys (in Cuba, default is masculine)
- Past tense for study findings
- AI: Technology still needs people

## Almost final – Subject line: **OMG One Tiny Detail and We're Done**

...for the missing percentage, I'm suggesting what is a direct quote from the authors' response: "quantitative percentage not available." I did it that way in the English version, and just needs the Spanish wording in the Spanish version (I typed it in there in English to see what it did to the subsequent line breaks, so those words will need to be deleted). It looks like it might be *esa información no derivó de la encuesta*. Someone else might have a different solution but i think this works fine for our journal for this very scholarly article.

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## **Benefits of Doing It the Way We Did**

- Joy!
- Challenge the English narrative
- As of July 2023, Viewed 542 times, downloaded 234 times
- Support and mentorship to authors
- Demonstrate Partnership Principles

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# Niurka's Experience of Publishing This Article



Niurka González Escalona (Principal Investigator for the research in “Perspectives on Gender” from 2012-2021):

- Expanding research to reach a broader community
- Model the process of writing research using inclusive language
- Collaboration, Dialogue, Respect

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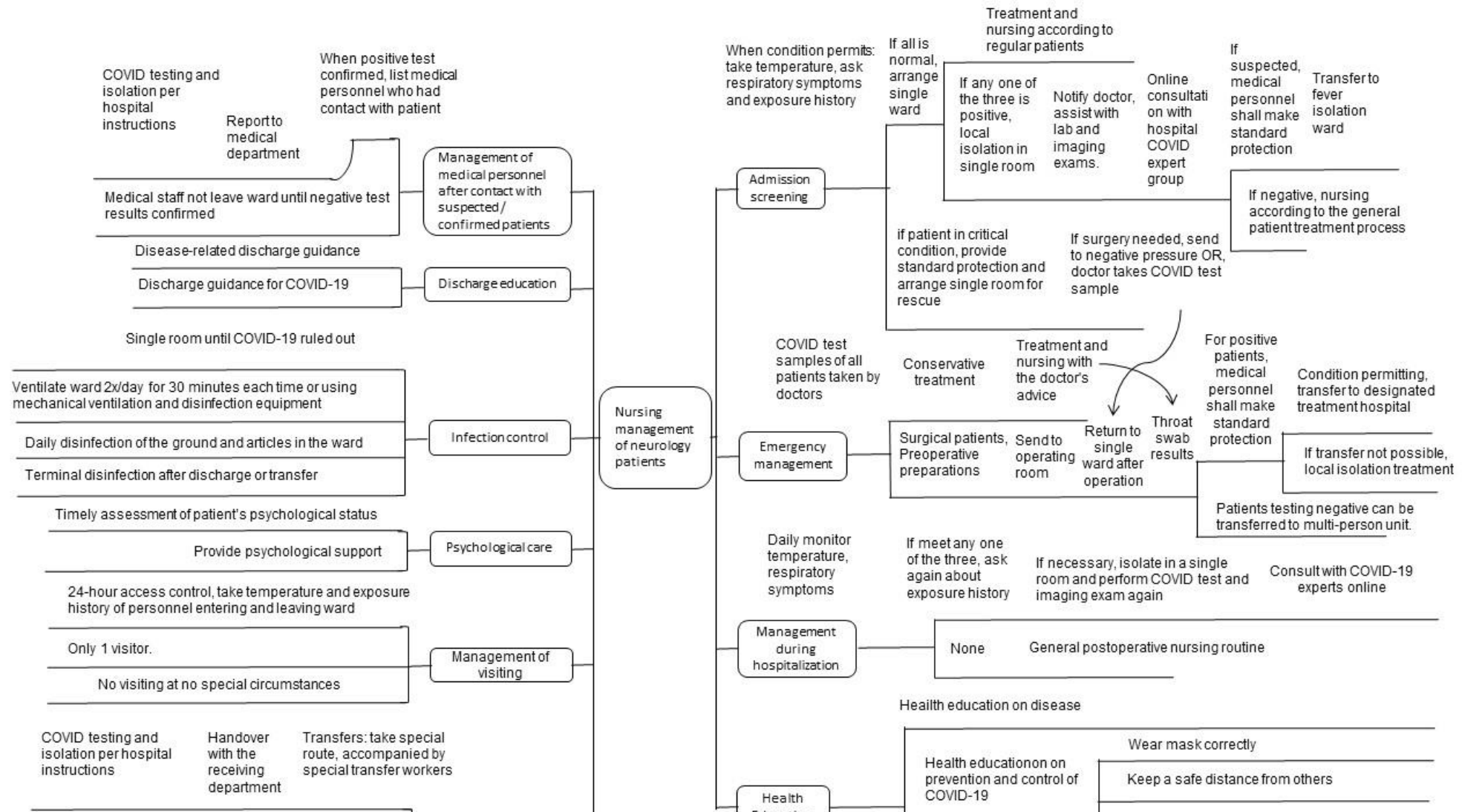
# Examples of Publishing Content in Languages Other than English

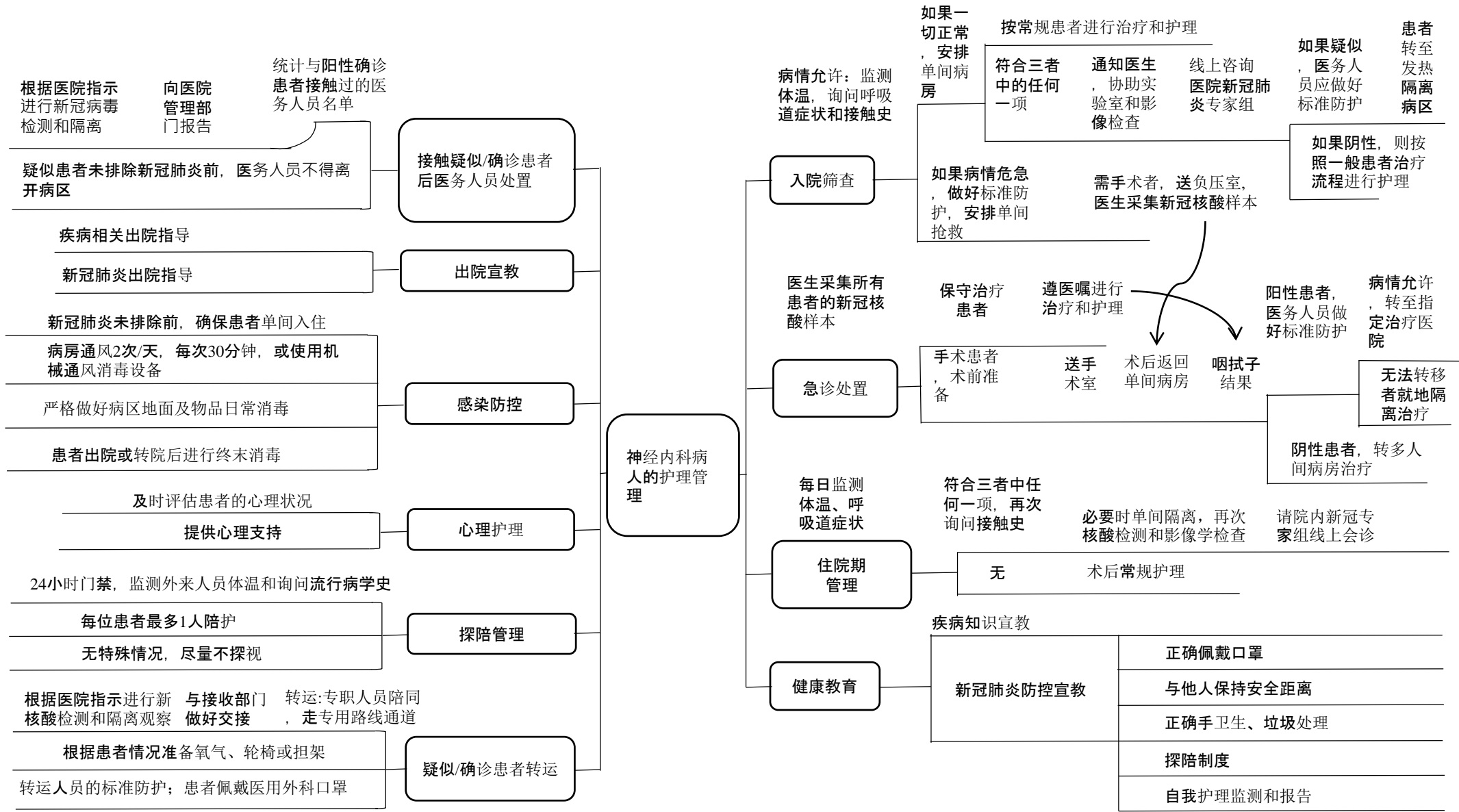
**Xue Bai:** Application of Mind Mapping in Nursing Care of Neurology Patients during the COVID-19 Pandemic. Supplemental files in English and Chinese. Epitome of Creative Nursing.

**Esmaeili et al:** Effectiveness of a Supportive Program on Caregiver Burden of Families Caring for Patients on Invasive Mechanical Ventilation at Home. Supplemental file in Persian. All of our readers will benefit.

**Younas et al:** Contextual Coding in Qualitative Research Involving Participants with Diverse Sociocultural Backgrounds. Text contains narrative data in the original languages, so that speakers of that language can see what participants said, and judge for themselves, “Those authors really nailed those themes” or, “Not so much.” If not room for data in text, publish as supplemental file.

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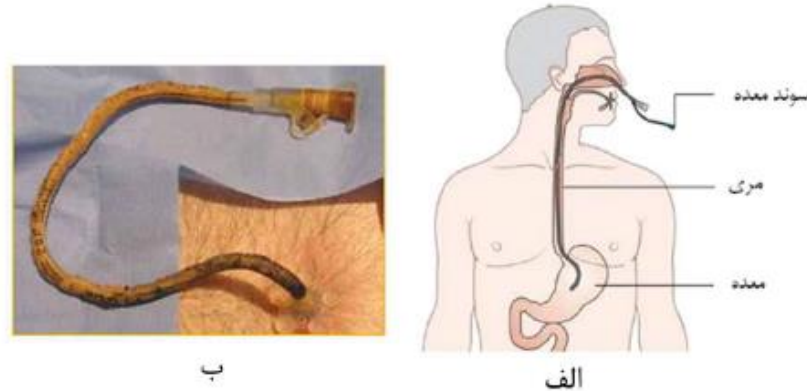


Xue Bai: Application of Mind Mapping in Nursing Care of Neurology Patients during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

图1 新冠肺炎疫情期间神经内科护理思维导图

### حمایت تغذیه‌ای

تغذیه یکی از موثرترین عوامل در حفظ و نگهداری و بازبازی سلامت است و تغذیه مناسب و زمان بندی شده به صورت قابل توجهی سبب بهبودی بیماران و کاهش هزینه های درمانی می‌گردد. به علت کاهش سطح هوشیاری بیماران تغذیه دهانی امکان پذیر نمی‌باشد و جهت تغذیه بعضی از بیماران از سوند معده یا NG tube و بعضی دیگر از پِگ (تغذیه از طریق راه فرعی به معده از روی شکم) استفاده می‌شود. از طریق این لوله تجویز داروهای خوراکی و مواد غذایی امکان پذیر است. سوند معده از طریق یکی از سوراخ‌های بینی وارد می‌شود و تا معده ادامه دارد. پِگ نیز لوله‌ای است که مستقیم داخل معده قرار داده شده است (شکل یک).



شکل یک: الف) سوند معده. ب) پِگ

## Esmaeili et al. Effectiveness of a Supportive Program on Caregiver Burden of Families Caring for Patients on Invasive Mechanical Ventilation at Home

# Younas et al. Page from Contextual Coding in Qualitative Research Involving Participants with Diverse Sociocultural Backgrounds.

<p>دینا ہر دعا ہمیشہ ہر اس بیماری کو ختم ہوا حکم ہتھیار رہی ہے۔</p> <p>"I say my prayers regularly, because I feel Allah is always here to help. He gives me the power and spiritual nourishment to get back to a normal routine. Prayer has always been my ultimate weapon against this disease."</p> <p>ب میں اللہ سے باقاعدگی سے دعا کرتا ہوں تو اس سے ایسی شفا آتی ہے۔ دعاؤں اور اللہ کے فضل کے بغیر تو اس سے کار نہیں</p> <p>"Divine healing comes from inside when I pray to Allah regularly. Without prayers and Allah's blessing, the medications are useless"</p>	<p>medications in this region?</p>	<p>However, these people also want to continuously work to meet their familial expenses. Believing in God gives them hope and internal emotional strength to continue working in spite of disease related complications. Faith healing offers them a somewhat placebo effect.</p>	<p><b>Code Description:</b> These people with COPD have strong faith on Allah and his blessings. Their strong Islamic beliefs and culture of prayer prompts them to rely more on prayer as a weapon for divine healing.</p>
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In Durante et al. (2022), participants' interviews were conducted in Italian, Spanish, and Dutch. Consequentially, the preliminary codes were developed and defined in the participants' language. For example, the preliminary code assigned for perceived nurses' role in the Italian context was *Pregiudizio verso gli infermieri* (Social prejudice on nurses). The different perceptions about the nurses' role are illustrated with the following quotes. Caregivers in Spain and Italy perceived the nurses' role as supportive an educational, and Dutch caregivers perceived the nurses' role as more technical. While developing the preliminary codes, each researcher involved in the reading and analysis chose these passages that adequately captured the social prejudice against and perceived role of nurses in their countries (Table 4). Another example is linked to how the caregivers showed the assistance perceived for their condition. The preliminary code for this phenomenon in the Spanish interview was *Ayudas Públicas* (Government helps). From the Italian interviews it emerged that caregivers were satisfied by the help received by the family and that they mainly relied on family members if they needed support. Meanwhile Spanish caregivers felt abandoned by institutions.

Table 4  
Examples of Contextual Coding from Mixed Methods Study (Durante et al., 2022)

Raw data in local language	Preliminary code in original language	Social/cultural query	Answers from bilingual discussion	Final code
<p>"Ho visto cose (riferite agli infermieri) che non rispettano la categoria, ma poi non so se puoi metterlo, perché magari arrivano di fretta non fanno attenzione alle manovre sono sempre di fretta..."</p>	<p>Pregiudizio verso gli infermieri -Social prejudice on nurses. -</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Like Spain and Italy, are nurses perceived as a support figure in other countries?</li> <li>What makes nurses support figure in Spanish/Italian</li> </ul>	<p><b>Answer Query 1:</b> In Spain and Italy, caregivers considered nurses as support figure offering emotional support through effective communication. However, in the Netherlands, nurses were primarily devoted</p>	<p><b>Code:</b> Nurses' social image determines their perceived role <b>Code Description:</b> Engrained stereotypical or perceived social beliefs about the nursing profession informs caregivers perception of nurses.</p>

# Next Steps

## **Theory: Model Development**

- Formal literature review of existing translation models for multilingual publications
- Continue to develop Multilingual Scholarly Publication Model
- Publish Multilingual Scholarly Publication Model

## **Practice: Multilingual Publication**

- Seek opportunities to publish other articles in 2 languages
- Seek opportunities to include content in multiple languages within articles published in English
- Challenge hegemonic practices in gathering, presenting data.

**We Welcome Your Comments and Questions!**

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## Resource List, p. 2

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