**Torabizadeh Patients’ dignity**

External review comments:

**Reviewer 1:**

1. The paper is very relevant in this context. But the Title of the paper does not match its content. The paper is the development and validation of a tool to assess observance of patient dignity. The title needs to be re-framed.
2. The interpretation is well-developed, but needs more connection with the domains and items. How well they connected with domains and how it emerged from the domains needs explanation.
3. Regarding the validation part, especially the qualitative evaluation, the authors have checked the domains and items of the tool with experts. They need to explain how they selected the expert and the average experience and field of interest of each expert and how the researchers reached a consensus etc. The process is explained in limited words and needs slight expansion.
4. The authors havedescribed the divergent validity process in the Results section. It is mandatory to describe the divergent validity process in detail in the Methods section, at least on the comparability of the new tool and the Nurses’ ethics standards questionnaire (gold standard).
5. It would also be good to include a small description about each domain and how it was addressed through items in the Discussion section. For example, the autonomy domain was the most neglected one. What is the author’s explanation about the neglect towards the autonomy domain? That will be more relevant in this context.
6. Has the reliability assessment of this instrument been done? If it is not done, they should explain the reason for not doing it.
7. Methods section: It is good to include more details in the Method section especially on expert validity and construct validity. It may be good to include a diagrammatic representation for explaining the validation process.
8. The study used an extensive method to satisfy the objectives. That is appreciable.

**Reviewer 2:**

1. Please add briefly in the Introduction:
2. Information about the nurse patient ratio in Iran, especially in tertiary care hospitals such as the ones where the studies were conducted.
3. Some information about the nature of training for nurses and on an average the career trajectory of nurses in such systems in terms of duration and positions in the health systems hierarchy. This will provide the context to the study.