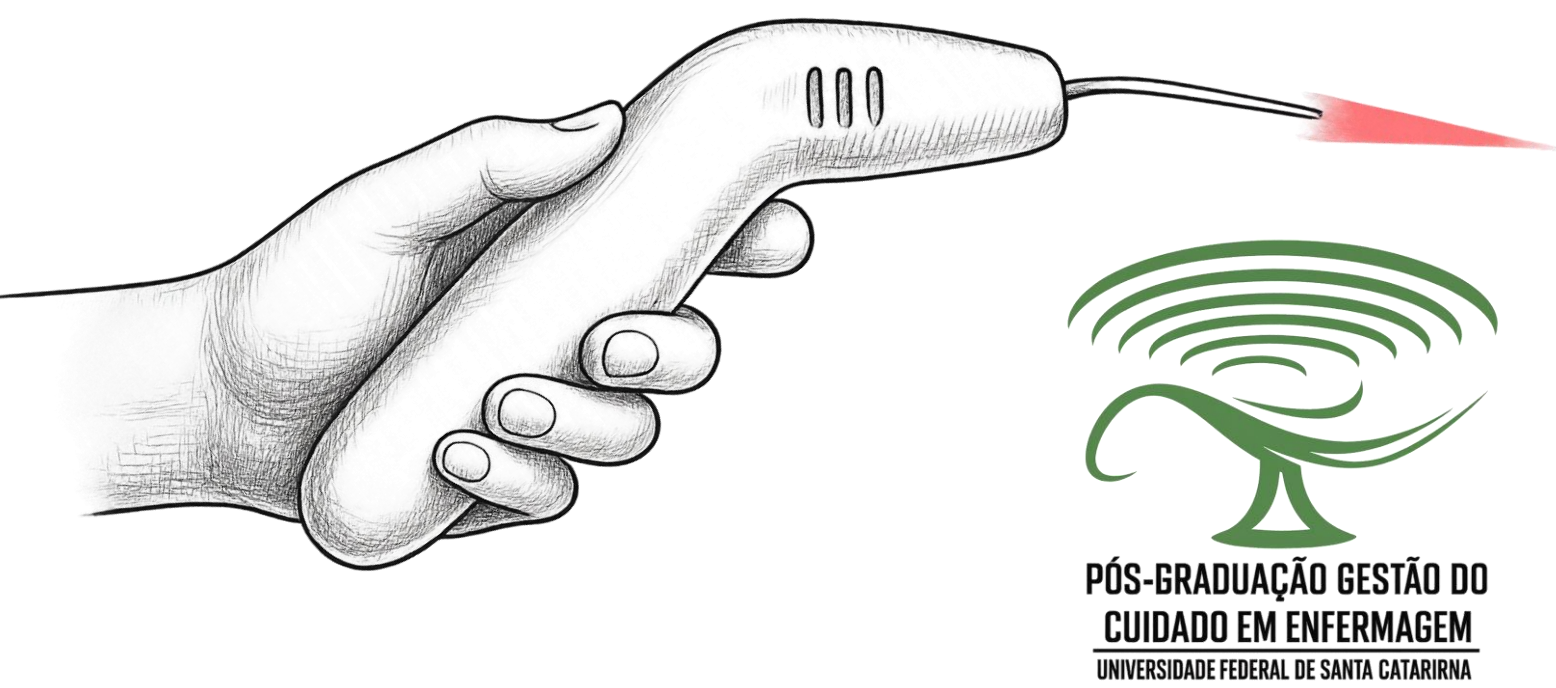


LOW-LEVEL LASER THERAPY IN THE TREATMENT OF INCONTINENCE ASSOCIATED DERMATITIS IN PEDIATRICS: CLINICAL NURSING PROTOCOL



Milena Pereira¹, Gabriela Beims Gapski¹, Juliana Balbinot Reis Girondi¹, Jane Cristina Anders¹, Anna Julia Trindade Bittencourt¹, Naiara Santana dos Santos¹

¹Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina



OBJECTIVE

The main purpose of this study was to develop and validate a clinical nursing protocol for the use of Low-Level Laser Therapy in the care of children with Incontinence-Associated Dermatitis.

METHODS

This was a methodological study, submitted to and approved by the Research Ethics Committee under opinion no. 6.793.430 and Certificate of Submission for Ethical Appraisal no. 77506124.0.0000.0121. It was structured with the stages of a literature and scoping review; development of the clinical protocol and validation with experts in the field. The scoping review investigated in the literature the use of Low Intensity Laser Therapy in the treatment of wounds in children, registered on the Open Science Framework platform under the number 10.17605/OSF.IO/VFGR9. For the development of the Clinical Protocol, the structural guidelines of the Ministry of Health were followed. For content validation, the sample was non-probabilistic, where specialists were invited on the basis of inclusion and exclusion criteria. Data was collected using online forms, using a four-point Likert scale, and the items that reached 80% consensus among the experts were validated.

RESULTS

Twenty nurses were invited to validate the clinical protocol and 12 responded and took part in the survey. The majority of the sample was made up of women, specialists in stomatherapy, aged between 30 and 54 and with between 6 and 32 years of nursing training. These professionals have been using Low Intensity Laser Therapy for at least a year and are active in care. The evaluation of the clinical protocol was largely positive, 100% of the items were considered “satisfactory” or “very satisfactory” in terms of clarity, coherence, relevance and completeness, obtaining between 91.6% and 100% approval. The items that were assessed by the participants as “not at all” or “not very” were asked for justification and were revised. No item had less than 80% validation, so there was no need for a new round of evaluation by the nurses.

CONCLUSION

Incontinence-Associated Dermatitis is a recurrent issue in pediatric nursing, requiring ongoing professional development to ensure safe, evidence-based care. Protocols are essential tools to support clinical decision-making. This study met its objective by supporting nurses in incorporating Low-Level Laser Therapy into their practice through a validated clinical protocol. During data collection, challenges were encountered in obtaining responses to the questionnaire, which may have limited valuable contributions for improving the study.

Keywords: Stomatherapy, Low Intensity Light Therapy, Diaper dermatitis, Pediatric nurses