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ACCURACY, CONSISTENCY AND STABILITY IN THE SPANISH VERSION OF QUALIVEEN IN DETERMINING THE QOL IN POPULATION WITH SCI

Hypothesis / aims of study

Spinal cord injury (SCI) is one of the most devastating shortcomings with regard to the quality of life (QoL) and especially by causing dysfunction in the bladder area. Up until now there were no specific questionnaire translated into Spanish for evaluating urinary disorder specific related health-related quality of life (HRQoL) associated with SCI. Qualiveen is recommended by the European Association of Urology guidelines as a tool for evaluating neurogenic lower urinary tract dysfunction. A previous study conducted in Spain performed a translation into Spanish and demonstrated appropriate test-retest reliability, internal consistency, retaining the original English version discriminating power [1].

The objective was to evaluate the accuracy, consistency and stability in the Spanish version of QUALIVEEN in determining QoL in SCI patients.

Study design, materials and methods

A longitudinal, multicenter, observational study was conducted in 12 Spinal Cord Injury centers in Spain. Male and female SCI patients ≥ 18 years, more than one year after the injury, with lower urinary tract symptoms, able to speak in Spanish and able to fulfill the questionnaire, were included in the study.

Qualiveen, ICIQ-SF and demographic questionnaires were administered at hospital during the first visit. After 7-30 days period a second Qualiveen questionnaire was fulfilled at home.

The reliability of QUALIVEEN scale in Spanish version in 140 patients with SCI was measured by determining the test-retest and coefficient alpha (α) Cronbach as indicators of the degree of reliability and internal consistency.

Results

140 SCI patients were included, 104 (74,3%) males and 36 (25,7%) females, average age 45 ± 12 years. 93 (68,9%) patients were paraplegic and 42 (31,1%) quadriplegic. 91 (66,4%) patients were ASIA Grade A, and in 117 (84,2%) the etiology was traumatic.

The Cronbach's alpha coefficient result has been to: Bother 0.884, Limitations 0.768, Fears 0.815, Impact on daily life 0.908 and General QoL index 0.888. (table 1)

The results of the correlations of the index scores between Qualiveen1 and Qualiveen 2 made fifteen days after are shown in Table 2.

Dimensions	Number of Items	Alfa Cronbach
Bother	9	0.884
Limitations	8	0.768
Fears	8	0.815
Impact on daily life	5	0.908
General QoL	9	0.888

Table 1: QUALIVEEN internal consistency

Dimensions	Number of items	Alfa Cronbach Qualiveen 1	Alfa Cronbach Qualiveen 2	Test – Re test *
Bother 1 vs 2	9	0.88	0.89	0.83
Limitations 1 vs 2	8	0.76	0.80	0.93
Fears 1 vs 2	8	0.82	0.84	0.83
Impact 1 vs 2	5	0.91	0.91	0.91
General QoL 1 vs 2	9	0.88	0.87	0.87

Table 2: QUALIVEEN reliability (* Intraclass correlations values)

Interpretation of results

Data from the Spanish version of the Quality of Life scale related to the disability of the bladder in patients with spinal cord injury is a reliable instrument for the accuracy, consistency and stability to determine the effect on quality of life and different QUALIVEEN categories related to it in this group.

Concluding message

QUALIVEEN Spanish version is a reliable instrument in SCI patients. The information obtained may allow us to develop appropriate and cost-effective preventive strategies in the fight against bladder impairment and its impact on QoL of people with SCI.

References

1. Ciudin A, Franco A, Diaconu MG, Peri L, Vivas V, González MA, Alcaraz A. Quality of life of Multiple Sclerosis patients: translation and validation of the spanish version Qualiveen. *Neurourol Urodyn* 2012, 31:517-520

Disclosures

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