

ISOQOL 2014 Abstract

Developing the Coeliac Disease Assessment Questionnaire (CDAQ): An assessment of translatability

Helen Crocker^{1*}, Hayley Simpson², Rebecca Two², Crispin Jenkinson¹, Michele Peters¹

¹Department of Population Health, University of Oxford

²PharmaQuest Ltd.

AIMS:

The objective of this study was to assess the translatability of the Coeliac Disease Assessment Questionnaire (CDAQ) in to other languages, and resolve potential translation issues as part of the development of this new measure. The CDAQ is a patient-reported outcome (PRO) measure which aims to assess health-related quality of life in adults with coeliac disease.

METHODS:

A translatability assessment of the CDAQ's candidate items (n=51) was conducted by PharmaQuest Ltd, a translation company specialising in the translation and linguistic validation of patient-reported outcome measures. A concept elaboration document was developed and sent to in-country translators, along with the English version of the CDAQ. The following six language-country combinations were selected: Arabic (Egypt), Finnish (Finland), French (France), German (Germany), Simplified Chinese (China), and Spanish (Argentina). Following a review of the translators' comments, PharmaQuest Ltd suggested recommendations for improving the items. Amendments to the CDAQ were made based on these recommendations.

RESULTS:

The translatability assessment identified problems with the translation of certain words (e.g. 'condition', 'loose bowels') and phrases (e.g. 'eating out'), where equivalents do not exist in other languages. In addition, certain words were problematic due to their alternative meanings in other languages. One item referred to following a gluten-free diet for weight loss purposes; this concept may not be understood in all other cultures. The sentence structure of some items was considered problematic and changes were recommended to improve the readability and aid translation of these items. The assessment also identified inconsistencies in the tenses used across items. Amendments were made where appropriate to resolve the translation issues identified, resulting in changes to 42 candidate items. The tense used was unified throughout.

CONCLUSIONS:

Assessing the translatability of the CDAQ as part of the development of the measure has resulted in an improved PRO. When the CDAQ is translated in to other languages, there will be fewer translation issues as a result of the amendments made. As well as reducing the likelihood of translation issues, the English source version has improved as a result of feedback from the translators. Item reduction and scale generation of this new measure will follow.