Zero-Shot Clinical Questionnaire Filling From Human-Machine Interactions

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Abstract

In clinical studies, chatbots mimicking doctor-patient interactions are used for collecting information about the patient’s health state. Later, this information needs to be processed and structured for the doctor. One way to organize it is by automatically filling the questionnaires from the human-bot conversation. It would help the doctor to spot the possible issues. Since there is no such dataset available for this task and its collection is costly and sensitive, we explore the capacities of state-of-the-art zero-shot models for question answering, textual inference, and text classification. We provide with a detailed analysis of the results and propose further directions for clinical questionnaire filling.

1 Introduction

Chatbots in healthcare can be used to collect information about the user with different purposes: treatment adherence, monitoring, patient support program, patient education, behavior change, diagnosis (Car et al., 2020).

Considering monitoring, patient-doctor conversations have mainly been used for the automation of medical records’ creation through the extraction of clinical entities such as symptoms, medications, and their properties (Du et al., 2019), generating reports (Finley et al., 2018) and summaries (Zhang et al., 2018). Surprisingly, the task of filling clinical questionnaires received less attention.

Patients fill standard questionnaires during each medical visit, which frequency is usually several weeks. Performing this task in an automated way based on serendipitous talk (through a chatbot) opens the opportunity to get updated information more regularly and then monitor the patient more closely and in a seamless way.

Ren et al. (2020a) were the first to introduce a questionnaire filling task as a classification problem, with the targets in the form of symptom phrases. Though, there is plenty of questionnaires that consist of full meaningful assertions or questions. The difference between questionnaire filling and slot filling is in the complexity of the questions that require machine reading comprehension (MRC) and question answering (QA).

The goal of a typical MRC task is to process a (set of) text passage(s) and then to answer questions about the passage(s). Though usually, multi-choice answer options are semantically different, in the case of questionnaires, the answers are often on the same scale (agree-disagree, often-rare).

More concretely, we make the following contributions:

• a clinical questionnaires’ categorization based on questions and answers types

• data collection schema for filling questionnaires for 5 question types: open questions (OQ), closed questions (CQ), agreement Likert-scale (ALS), frequency Likert-scale (FLS) and visual analogue scale (VAS)

• analysis of question answering (QA), natural language inference (NLI), and zero-shot text classification (ZeroShot-TC) state-of-the-art models performance for the mentioned question types

2 Related work

Four formats are commonly used for posing questions and answering them: Extractive (EX), Abstractive (AB), Multiple-Choice (MC), and Yes/No (YN). UnifiedQA (Khashabi et al., 2020) is a single pre-trained QA model, that performs well across 20 QA datasets spanning 4 diverse formats.

Demszky et al. (2018) proposed a sentence transformation model which converts question-answer pairs into their declarative forms that allows to solve the task with NLI models. On the other hand, (Yin et al., 2019) shows how ZeroShot-TC models
may be successfully used as NLI models, being partially inspired by the way (Obamuyide and Vlahos, 2018) transformed relation classification task into NLI problem.

Questions in multiple-choice RACE (Lai et al., 2017) require holistic reasoning about the text, involving people’s mental states and attitudes and the way they express them. Mishra et al. (2020) described reasoning categories present in RACE and showed that if given passage is a dialogue, NLI model performs better than QA model.

Ren et al. (2020b) presented a new medical Information Extraction task which uses questionnaires to convert medical text data into structured data. Their work is based on neural network classifier which makes selection among given options for closed-end type questions to fill out one complete questionnaire using only one model.

To our best knowledge, it is a first work to address the problem of filling in clinical questionnaires based on dialogue history. In Section 3 we are going to discuss the most common question types in questionnaires, including Likert scale which wasn’t addressed before in clinical natural language processing. Also in Section 6 we show state-of-the-art models’ ability to solve this task.

The task of filling questionnaires from user-bot dialogue history is a very specific sub-field of MRC in NLP and as a result, reduces the chance of availability of such data for training/fine-tuning current models or later for evaluation, specially in medical domain. Both dialogues and answered questionnaires based on them are required that makes it difficult to collect such data on a large scale. This low resource setting is conducive to zero-shot approaches.

### 3 Question types

Khashabi et al. (2020) categorized existing QA datasets into four categories based on the format of answers: Extractive (EX), Abstractive (AB), Multiple-Choice (MC), and Yes/No (YN). In the following section we would like to introduce also Likert scale and Visual analogue scales (VAS) type of answers which is very common for clinical questionnaires. Sinha et al. (2017) came to the conclusion in their review that Visual analogue scale (VAS) and numerical rating scale (NRS) were the best adapted pain scales for pain measurement in endometriosis. Also, VAS is often used in epidemiologic and clinical research to measure the intensity or frequency of various symptoms (Paul-Dauphin, 1999).

For each question type present in medical questionnaire, we provide examples of questionnaires and question in Table 1.

### 4 Task and Data

#### 4.1 Task

Given a human-healthbot dialog history $D$ and a set of questions $q_i$ extracted from a questionnaire $Q$, the task is to determine the correct answer $a_i$ to each question $q_i$, including the 'not mentioned' option, i.e. the possibility that the dialog does not address that question.

#### 4.2 Chatbot

To create a chatbot for interactions, we followed the ComBot ensemble (Liednikova et al., 2021). The conversation always starts with the opening ‘What is the most difficult for you about your sleep?’ We made sure that there is no intersection between questions of the bot and questionnaire ques-

| Question type | Questionnaire |
|---------------|---------------|
| Open Question (OQ) | Morin (Morin, 1993) |
| | MOS-SS (Sherbourne and Stewart, 1991) |
| Closed Question (CQ) | QPC (C. Thomas-Antérion, 2004) |
| | EPICES (Bihan et al., 2005) |
| Agreement Likert-scale (ALS) | TSK (Kori, 1990) |
| | PBPI (Williams and Thorn, 1989) |
| | TAS-20 (Bagby et al., 1994) |
| | LOT-R (Scheier et al., 1994) |
| | IEQ-CF (Sullivan, 2008) |
| | JCK (KARASEK, 1985) |
| Frequency Likert-scale (FLS) | MOS-SS (Sherbourne and Stewart, 1991) |
| | MBI (Maslach et al., 1997) |
| | PCL-S (Weathers et al., 1993) |
| | HAD (Zigmond and Snaith, 1983) |
| | SF-12 (Ware Jr et al., 1996) |
| Visual Analogue Scale (VAS) | QCD (Daut, 1983) |
| | Dallas (Lawlis et al., 1989) |
| | LEEDS (Parrott and Hindmarch, 2004) |
| | FABQ-W (Waddell et al., 1993) |

Table 1: Clinical questionnaires and their types of questions
tions, due to the point of the research for answering questions implicitly addressed in the dialog. Since creating a dialog following the questionnaire topics is a very resource consuming task, we decided to mitigate the risk of the system proposing undesired direction of the conversation with a rejection function. If a bot reply isn’t consistent with the dialog history, the user can reject it and receive the next best candidate to continue the conversation.

4.3 Questionnaires

For experiments, we have chosen three questionnaires that are semantically close to the topics of the chatbot model: Morin (OQ), PBPI (ALS, VAS, CQ), Mos-ss (FLS). For PBPI questionnaire we ask annotators to give the answers in three format types at the same time: CQ, ALS, VAS. We provide statistics in Table 2. The full list of the questions could be found in Appendix, the answer options could be found in Tables 5 and 6.

4.4 Data collection

We asked 10 annotators to interact with the chatbot one time for each of the three questionnaires. So in total, we collected 30 dialogues and their corresponding question answers.

The annotators were first asked to read the questionnaire so that they could guide the interaction with the health bot maximizing the number of questions addressed during the dialog. Then the annotators were asked to fill in the questionnaire based on their conversation and to select ‘Not mentioned’ (NA) option if the current question couldn’t be answered from the dialog history. For PBPI questionnaire we ask annotators to give the answers in three format types at the same time: CQ, ALS, VAS. You can find screenshot of interfaces in Appendix and answer options in Tables 5 and 6.

To ensure the reliability of collected data, we conducted a double annotation with adjudication. We ask two people to fill in the questionnaires based on the collected dialogues. So, totally for each question of each dialog we have three answers (one from the author of the dialog and two from other annotators). Table 4 demonstrates final agreement between two annotators engaged in double annotation, as well as between two annotators and initial participants. In case of disagreement between annotators, the third person (adjudicator) decides the final label. These ground truth labels are used for evaluation of the models later.

During annotation, we came with some definition of classes that helped the annotators to come to agreement. We consider that the user would totally agree with the questionnaire statement if this statement or its paraphrase is explicitly mentioned in text, otherwise if there are phrases that fully or partially support this statement we annotate it with agree label. The same rules are applied to give disagreement and total disagreement label for contradictory statements.

Due to the high level of complexity of the task, we enrolled high-educated volunteers from our professional network. We made sure that participants were well aware of the context of the work and they were all properly compensated. On average, performing a complete conversation with chatbot took 20 minutes from participants, and about 15 minutes for answering a questionnaire from a dialog history.

Since the data and questionnaires were initially in French, we have translated them with DeepL to English and to run the models.

| Q Type | Questionnaire | Nb. of Q | Nb. of A |
|--------|---------------|----------|----------|
| OQ     | Morin         | 22       | inf      |
| CQ     | PBPI          | 16       | 3        |
| ALS    | PBPI          | 16       | 5        |
| FLS    | Mos-ss        | 10       | 7        |
| VAS    | PBPI          | 16       | 11       |

Table 2: Questionnaires statistics: number of questions and number of answer options

| Type      | MOS-SS | Morin | PBPI |
|-----------|--------|-------|------|
| # turn    | 24.4   | 34.5  | 23.5 |
| # tokens  | 259.1  | 403.2 | 269.2|
| # nb of tokens / turn | 11.2 | 11.9 | 12.2 |
| # Q answered | 76%  | 59.3% | 85.6% |
| # uniq tokens | 140.8 | 201 | 147.6 |

Table 3: Statistics of dialogues for each questionnaire

5 Models

In this section, we present the models that can be used in zero-shot setting with selected question types.

**QA model** UnifiedQA (Khashabi et al., 2020) is a single pre-trained QA model, that performs

1https://www.deepl.com/fr/translator
2https://github.com/allenai/unifiedqa
Table 4: Inter-annotator agreement, using Kappa score for closed-ended questions and F1 score for Open question type

| question type | choice | ratio |
|---------------|--------|-------|
| CQ            | yes    | 55%   |
|               | no     | 30.6% |
|               | NA     | 14.4% |
| ALS           | totally agree | 35% |
|               | agree  | 19.4% |
|               | rather disagree | 11.8% |
|               | totally disagree | 19.4% |
|               | NA     | 14.4% |
|               | all the time | 5.6% |
|               | most of the time | 11.9% |
|               | a good part of the time | 5% |
|               | sometimes | 12.5% |
|               | rarely   | 7.5%  |
|               | never    | 5%    |
|               | NA       | 15%   |
| FLS           | 10      | 34.4% |
|               | 9       | 1.2%  |
|               | 8       | 3.1%  |
|               | 7       | 11.9% |
|               | 6       | 3.8%  |
|               | 5       | 1%    |
|               | 4       | 0.6%  |
|               | 3       | 2.1%  |
|               | 2       | 8.1%  |
|               | 1       | 1.2%  |
|               | 0       | 18.1% |
|               | NA      | 14.4% |

Table 5: Statistics of number of different choices for each question type

well across 20 QA datasets spanning 4 diverse formats. Fine-tuning this pre-trained QA model into specialized models results in a new state of the art on 10 factoid and commonsense QA datasets, establishing UnifiedQA as a strong starting point for building QA systems. In our experiments, we used UnifiedQA-t5-3b version.

Applied to the following question types:

- **OQ** The dialog history and question are provided in format of NarrativeQA dataset (Kočiský et al., 2017)
- **CQ and ALS** To fit format of MCTest dataset (Richardson et al., 2013), we transformed questionnaire statements to question form, by changing first pronoun to second and adding "Do you agree with that" at the beginning. Otherwise, the model tends to choose NA option.
- **FLS** The dialog history and question are provided in format of MC Test dataset (Richardson et al., 2013)

**NLI model** We use DeBERTa V2 xlarge model (He et al., 2020) fine-tuned with MNLI dataset (Williams et al., 2018) for NLI task. We pass to the model concatenated dialog history as premise and question in declarative form as hypothesis. The output is probabilities for three classes: Entailment, Contradiction, Neutral.

Applied to the following question types:

- **CQ** A question is transformed into a statement and treated as hypothesis. Entering the premise and hypothesis to the model, we choose the class with the highest score as the final answer. Entailment class is considered as ’yes’, contradiction as ’no’ and neutral as ’NA’.
- **ALS** Premise is a dialogue history, hypothesis is a questionnaire statement. If probability for neutral class was higher than contradiction and entailment class, we consider that the dialogue doesn’t contain relevant information to the question and give NA label. Otherwise, we take probability of Contradiction with negative sign and sum up it with probability of Entailment with positive sign. The resulting score lies in the interval of (-1,1). We uniformly divide this interval into N segments, where N is a number of options on Linkert-scale (usually 4 or 5).
- **FLS** For each question, we enter the model with dialogue as the premise and concatenation of one of the frequency scales with statement format of question (hypothesis = freq + question_statement_format) as hypothesis. We treat transformed question-answer combinations as distinct hypotheses, as presented in (Trivedi et al., 2019). Among frequency choices, we choose the one which has the highest entailment score. If none of them has the entailment score higher than 50%, we consider that the dialogue doesn’t contain relevant
information to the question and give NA label. Otherwise, we select the frequency scale with the highest entailment score.

• VAS If score for neutral is highest, then the selected output would be NA. Otherwise, we subtract the entailment score from contradiction. The result would be in range (-1,1). To map the result in range (0,10), we add value 1 to the subtraction result and then multiply it with 5 (shown in equation 1).

\[ \text{value} = (\text{ent} - \text{cont} + 1) \times 5 \quad (1) \]

where \( \text{ent} \) and \( \text{cont} \) are the predicted probabilities of entailment and contradiction classes.

ZeroShot-TC model We use Bart-large model (Lewis et al., 2019)\(^4\) for zero-shot text classification trained on MNLI corpus (Williams et al., 2018). In this setting, we pass concatenated dialog history as a context and formulate target labels as filled templates, so that the input data could be closer to entailment format. Then we add one more target label 'NA' to consider the situation when the answer is not mentioned in the dialog. The model provides probability scores for each candidate, and the candidate with the highest probability would be chosen as the final answer.

Applied to the following question types:

• CQ We transform a question into the statement beginning with "I agree that" for "yes" choice or with "I disagree that" for "no" choice.

• ALS The candidates are formed following the template "I agreement_option that questionnaire statement", where agreement options are totally disagree, disagree, agree, totally agree.

• FLS We transform a question into the statement and add in the beginning the frequency option to form the candidates.

• VAS Candidates are defined as the same as ones in CQ. Model outputs probability scores for each class. By having these scores for each label and map them to entailment/contradiction/neutral labels, we continue transforming the results to VAS scale by doing the same process explained previously for VAS using NLI model.

6 Evaluation

Since for each question type we had different output, we used different evaluation scores.

For evaluating the performance of UnifiedQA on open-question types, we have used two common evaluation metrics: ROUGE (Lin, 2004) and BERTscore Zhang et al. (2019). ROUGE counts how many n-grams in the generated response matches the n-grams in the reference answer. Since we used abstractive mode of UnifiedQA, generated outputs might have different n-grams from reference ones. Therefore, using BERTscore might show a more realistic evaluation perspective since it computes the semantic similarity between generated and referenced answers based on embeddings.

We evaluate closed questions (CQ), agreement Likert scale (ALS), frequency Likert scale (FLS) and visual analogue scale (VAS) with macro and weighted F1 score.

The results are shown in the Table 7 for open-ended question type and in Table 8 for closed-ended ones. Because UnifiedQA generates answer even for unmentioned questions, we report the results for both all questions (mentioned and not mentioned questions) and for just mentioned ones.

The experiments were conducted with a laptop having Intel® Core™ i7-10610U CPU @ 1.80GHz * 8 and NVIDIA Quadro P520.

7 Results and discussion

Detecting unanswerable questions Considering all open questions, we can see from Table 7 that the scores are considerably low, 0.38 for ROUGE and 0.55 for BERT. On the other hand, if we calculate these scores only for open questions being mentioned in the dialog (according to the user answers), the scores are almost 2 times better. Results indicate the high performance of UnifiedQA model for answering mentioned questions and its lack to distinguish given the context if the question is answerable or not.

Impact of number of choices Table 8 shows the performance of SOTA NLI and ZeroShot-TC models for answering closed-ended question types (CQ, ALS, FLS, VAS). Comparing results for different question types can tell us that number of multiple-choices in each question type has a great impact on final results. Closed question type with 3 choices has the highest results and on the other hand, VAS with 11 choices has the lowest performance.
Table 6: Examples of input and output for textual inference with Deberta and zero-shot classification with Bart-large for closed, agreement, frequency and VAS scale questions

| Q type | Answers | NLI | ZeroShot-TC |
|--------|---------|-----|-------------|
| CQ     | yes, no, NA | Premise: dialogue history | Hypothesis: There are times when I don’t have pain. | Targets: I agree that there are times when I don’t have pain, I disagree that there are times when I don’t have pain, NA |
|        |         | Model output: entailment(0.5), contradiction(0.3), neutral(0.2) | Model output: I agree that there are times when I don’t have pain. |
|        |         | Final output: yes | Final output: yes |
| ALS    | totally disagree, rather disagree, agree, totally agree, NA | Premise: dialogue history | Hypothesis: There are times when I don’t have pain. | Targets: I totally disagree that there are times when I don’t have pain, I rather disagree that there are times when I don’t have pain, NA |
|        |         | Model output: entailment(0.5), contradiction(0.3), neutral(0.2) | Model output: I totally disagree that there are times when I don’t have pain. |
|        |         | Final output: agree | Final output: totally disagree |
| FLS    | all the time, most of the time, a good part of the time, sometimes, rarely, never, NA | Premise: dialogue history | Hypothesis: I got the amount of sleep I needed. | Targets: all the time I got the amount of sleep I needed, most of the time I got the amount of sleep I needed, NA |
|        |         | Model output: entailment score for each freq. scale | Model output: rarely I got the amount of sleep I needed. |
|        |         | Final output: choosing freq. scale which has the highest entailment score | Final output: rarely |
| VAS    | 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, NA | Premise: dialogue history | Hypothesis: I got the amount of sleep I needed. | Targets: I agree that there are times when I don’t have pain, I disagree that there are times when I don’t have pain, NA |
|        |         | Model output: entailment(0.5), contradiction(0.3), neutral(0.2) | Model output: I agree that there are times when I don’t have pain, (0.5), I disagree that there are times when I don’t have pain, (0.3), NA(0.2) |
|        |         | Final output: 6 | Final output: 6 |

Table 7: Scores for zero-shot evaluation of OQ type

| Metric | All | Answered |
|--------|-----|----------|
| ROUGE  | 0.38 | 0.63 |
| BERT   | 0.55 | 0.93 |

The table 8 also indicates the superiority of ZeroShot-TC for CQ and FLS questions types than NLI. After comparing confusion matrices provided for the NLI and ZeroShot-TC models, we can observe that the NLI model has a high tendency to give NA (neutral) class as output, while this is not the case for the ZeroShot-TC model. On the other hand, the inability of ZeroShot-TC model to correctly predict extreme choices (totally agree/totally disagree) for ALS question type (figure 2) has led to the lower performance of this model in comparison with NLI.
| Model                          | Question type | metric   | CQ     | ALS     | FLS     | VAS     |
|-------------------------------|---------------|----------|--------|---------|---------|---------|
| Random (Baseline)             |               |          | 0.33   | 0.25    | 0.14    | 0.09    |
| UnifiedQA-t5-3b               |               | macro F1 | 0.44   | 0.13    | **0.29**|         |
|                               |               | weighted F1 | 0.58   | 0.12    | **0.32**|         |
| deberta-v2-xlarge-mnli       |               | macro F1 | 0.417  | **0.240**| 0.158   | 0.064   |
|                               |               | weighted F1 | 0.470  | 0.262   | 0.192   | **0.104**|
| facebook/bart-large-mnli      |               | macro F1 | **0.484**| 0.106   | 0.220   | 0.03    |
|                               |               | weighted F1 | **0.575**| 0.136   | 0.262   | 0.03    |

Table 8: Scores for zero-shot evaluation for question types: CQ - closed question, ALS - agreement Likert-scale, FLS - frequency Likert-scale, VAS - Visual Analogue Scale

Figure 2: Confusion matrix for ALS using QA (left), NLI (center) and ZeroShot-TC (right) models

Figure 3: Confusion matrix for FLS using QA (left), NLI (center) and ZeroShot-TC (right) models

Figure 4: Confusion matrix for VAS using NLI (left) and ZeroShot-TC (right) model
Measuring agreement is the most challenging task. From Table 8 and Figures 2 and 4 we can see that predicting answers for agreement scale is the most challenging task. Since the answer option isn’t semantically different enough to facilitate models choice, the probabilities for target classes don’t help with selecting the correct level of agreement. In future work, we would like to explore other approaches, such as multi-hop reasoning and argument mining.

Importance of text input. From our experiments, we can derive that the models are sensitive to the input text format and noise. Also, the different models are sensitive to the different data preprocessing technics. They may include using speaker tags, punctuation cleaning, selecting a subset of input text on some criteria. Such experiments should show what kind of preprocessing may boost performance without unnecessary data collection and training. These results may be a contribution to green and sustainable NLP.

8 Conclusion

In this paper, we introduced the approaches for clinical questionnaire filling in a zero-shot setting for the five question types most used in clinical studies. Also, we describe the data collection process for their evaluation. With the results, we show that this task is not easy to solve.

There is a type of questions which are more well-known in multi-hop reading comprehension. For such type of questions, there is a need to properly integrate multiple pieces of evidence to answer them. Song et al. (2018) investigates graph convolutional network (GCN) and graph recurrent network to perform evidence integration.

As future work, we plan to take advantage of graph convolutional networks (GCNs) to improve the textual entailment for questionnaire filling. It would be possible due to enriching the model with knowledge graphs both in the open domain and close domain (medical).

Another direction to explore is text transformations. For example, we plan to transform statement-question into cloze form by masking the most important word and providing it as one option of the answers, use common-sense knowledge and graph structure for better reasoning.

Ethical considerations

Regarding Regulation (EU) 2017/745, described software is intended for general uses, even when used in a healthcare environment, it is intended for uses relating to lifestyle or well-being that do not constitute any a medical prediction and medical prognosis function without doctors validation or correction.

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### A Questionnaires

| nb | Question |
|----|----------|
| 1  | Did you have the impression that your sleep was not calm (moving constantly, feeling tense, talking, etc., while you were sleeping)? |
| 2  | Did you get enough sleep to feel rested when you woke up in the morning? |
| 3  | Did you wake up short of breath or with a headache? |
| 4  | Have you felt a cloudy or drowsy mind during the day? |
| 5  | Have you had difficulty falling asleep? |
| 6  | Have you woken up in your sleep and had difficulty falling back to sleep? |
| 7  | Did you have trouble staying awake during the day? |
| 8  | Have you snored in your sleep? |
| 9  | Did you take naps (5 minutes or more) during the day? |
| 10 | Did you get the amount of sleep you needed? |

Table 9: List of questions in MOS-SS questionnaire

### B User interface for annotation

![Figure 5: MOS-SS questionnaire](image-url)
| nb. | Question |
|-----|----------|
| 1   | What time do you usually go to bed on weekday evenings? |
| 2   | What time is your final wake-up call in the morning? |
| 3   | What time do you usually get up during the week? |
| 4   | What time do you go to bed on your days off? |
| 5   | What time do you get up on your days off? |
| 6   | How soon do you fall asleep after turning off the light? |
| 7   | How many times a night do you wake up on average? |
| 8   | How long do you spend waking up between your first sleep and your final awakening? |
| 9   | How many hours per night do you sleep on average? |
| 10  | Why do you wake up at night? (pain, noise, child, nightmare, spontaneous awakening, others) |
| 11  | What medicine are you taking or were you taking and at what dose? |
| 12  | How many nights per week do you currently take the medicine? |
| 13  | When did you start taking the medicine? |
| 14  | When was the first time you had trouble sleeping? |
| 15  | Did your insomnia start gradually or suddenly? |
| 16  | Were there any stressful events that could be linked to the onset of your insomnia? (death, divorce, retirement, family or professional problem, ..) |
| 17  | How many times a week do you exercise? |
| 18  | How much coffee, tea or Coca-Cola do you consume per day? |
| 19  | How many cigarettes do you smoke per day? |
| 20  | How many glasses of beer, wine or alcohol do you drink per day? |

Table 10: List of questions in Morin questionnaire

| nb. | Question |
|-----|----------|
| 1   | No one is able to tell me why it hurts. |
| 2   | I thought my pain could be healed, but now I’m not so sure. |
| 3   | There are times when it doesn’t hurt. |
| 4   | My pain is difficult for me to understand. |
| 5   | My pain will always be there. |
| 6   | I am in constant pain. |
| 7   | If it hurts, it’s only my fault. |
| 8   | I don’t have enough information about my pain. |
| 9   | My pain is a temporary problem in my life. |
| 10  | I feel like I wake up with pain and fall asleep with it. |
| 11  | I am the cause of my pain. |
| 12  | There is a way to heal my pain. |
| 13  | I blame myself when it hurts. |
| 14  | I can’t understand why it hurts. |
| 15  | One day, again, I won’t have any pain at all. |
| 16  | My pain varies in intensity but it is always present with me. |

Table 11: List of questions in PBPI questionnaire
Figure 7: PBPI questionnaire