The validity and reliability of the Arabic version of the EQ-5D: a study from Jordan.

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Abstract

BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES: EQ-5D is a generic measure that permits comparisons in quality of life across disease states, and which may provide useful data for health policy and resource allocation decision-making. There are no published reports on the acceptability and psychometric properties of the EQ-5D in the Arabic language. We therefore investigated the validity and reliability of the Arabic translation of the EQ-5D in Jordan.

METHODS: The study was conducted on a convenience sample consisting of consecutive adult Arabic-speaking outpatients or visitors attending a university teaching hospital. Subjects were interviewed twice using a standardized questionnaire containing the EQ-5D, Short Form 36 Health Survey (SF-36). To assess the validity of the Arabic version of the EQ-5D, ten hypotheses relating responses to EQ-5D dimensions or the visual analogue scale (EQ-VAS) to SF-36 scores or other variables were examined and test-retest reliability was assessed.

RESULTS: The study included 186 subjects who had a mean age of 45.3 years and included 87 (47%) females. The major problem reported in more than 102 (55%) of the subjects was anxiety/depression. All of the ten apriori hypothesis relating EQ-5D responses to external variables were fulfilled. Cohen's k for test-retest reliability (n=52) ranged from 0.48 to 1.0.

CONCLUSION: The Arabic translation of EQ-5D appears to be valid and reliable in measuring quality of life in Jordanian people.