

Development and Evaluation of a Quality of Life Instrument for Patients with Chronic Gastritis Disease (QLICD-CG)

Li GAO, Chonghua WAN

School of Public Health, Kunming Medical College. Yunnan. P. R. China

Introduction

Health related quality of life : a working definition HRQOL is a concept which reflects the physical, social, and emotional attitudes and behaviours of an individual as they relate to their prior and current health status from the patients' perspective and serves as a powerful tool to assess and explain disease outcomes. Measuring HRQOL in clinical research is most frequently undertaken using multi-item questionnaires to estimate daily function . Factors which affect HRQOL can be broadly classed as disease related and disease independent.

Abstracts

Objective To develop and evaluate a self-administered instrument on quality of life for Chinese patients with chronic gastritis disease. **Materials and Method** Based on a literature review, the structured group (nominal group and focus group) methods and the theory and methodology of developing rating scales were employed to develop the instrument. Through four sessions of field study, five steps of item selection, 47 items were selected from 74 items relating to QOL of chronic gastritis patients to form the Quality of Life Instrument for Patients with Chronic Gastritis Disease (QLICD-CG). The statistic methods employed mainly included correlation analysis, factor analysis, calculated coefficient of variation and cluster analysis. Then the data of pilot investigation collected by face to face investigation for 95 hospitalized patients with chronic gastritis were used to evaluate the questionnaire.

Results: Synthetically judging from the results of four methods including coefficient of variation, Pearson correlation coefficient, factor analysis and average coefficient of determination, 11 items were deleted so that the instrument can be used to clinical practice more efficiently and sensitively. The constructs of the general part of the instrument obtained were consistent with the conceived concept in essence, eight principal components were extracted by factor analysis and represented three domains of the scale, the gastritis-specific part five principal components were extracted; the test-retest correlation coefficient of the four domains of the scale are all higher than 0.77, and internal consistency coefficient alpha of them are all higher than 0.7; those of the total scale respectively are 0.77, 0.90. **Conclusion**

The QLICD-CG scale could measure the quality of life in patients with chronic gastritis disease with reasonable reliability and validity, so it has practical value for clinical use.