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Appendix C

 Table B1

 COSMIN recommended appraisal criteria for questionnaire properties

Domain	Definition	Appraisal criteria
Reliability		
Internal	Interrelatedness among scale items	P: Cronbach's alpha(s) $\geq .7$
	•	I: No Cronbach's alphas, or dimensions undetermined
		N: Cronbach's alpha(s) $< .7$
Test-retest	The proportion of the variance in measurements	P: Intra-class correlation/weighted Kappa $\geq .7$, or, Pearson's $r \geq .8$
	which is due to 'true' differences between patients	I: Neither of the above analyses reported
		N: Intra-class correlation/weighted Kappa < .7, or Pearson's r < .8
Validity	Whether scores on an instrument adequately reflect	
Criterion	a 'gold standard'. The only real gold standard comparator instrument is another version of the	P: Criterion variable is a 'gold standard' assessment of the construct. Correlation ≥ .7
	same measure. Other comparators are often wrongly considered as gold standard	I: No information. No arguments that criterion variable is 'gold standard' N: Correlation with gold standard < .7
Content	How well an instrument reflects the construct to be	P: Items relevant to construct and target population, and questionnaire is
	measured	comprehensive
		I:Not enough information
		N: Some items irrelevant to construct, or for target population, or questionnaire is not comprehensive
Construct Validity		
Hypothesis testing	How consistent instrument scores are with	P: Correlations with associated measures \geq .5, or at least 75% results are in
	hypotheses. For example, about relationships with other instruments (convergent/divergent validity) or	accordance with hypotheses and correlations with related constructs are higher than with unrelated constructs
	differences between relevant groups (known-groups	I: No information, or correlations solely with unrelated constructs presented
	validity).	N: Correlations with associated measures < .5, or less than 75% of hypotheses
	• 1	accepted (continued)
		(continued)

Domain	Definition	Appraisal criteria
Cross-cultural validity	Whether items on a translated or culturally adapted	P. No difference in factor structure or important differential item functioning (DIF)
	instrument adequately reflect of the performance of	between versions
	items on the original instrument.	I: Factor analysis not applied and DIF not assessed
		N: Differences in factor structure or DIF between languages
	Whether scores on an instrument adequately reflect	
Structural validity	the dimensionality of the construct to be measured.	P: Factors explain at least 50% of the variance
	•	I: Explained variance not mentioned, or factor analysis not completed.
		N: Factors explain < 50% variance
	The ability of an instrument to detect change over	•
	time in the construct to be measured.	
Responsiveness		P: Correlation with changes on instruments measuring the same construct ≥ 0.5 OR
		at least 75% of results in accordance with hypotheses OR area under the curve ≥ 0.7
		and correlations with changes in related constructs are higher than unrelated
		constructs
		I: Appropriate analyses not conducted, or solely correlations determined with
		unrelated constructs.
		N: Responsiveness analyses conducted but criteria not met

Note. Information in table obtained from Terwee et al. (2011) and Mokkink et al. (2012). P = Positive evidence, I = indeterminate evidence, N = negative evidence