

FARSI TRANSLATION OF THE SHORT FORM OF OVER ACTIVE BLADDER QUESTIONNAIRE (OABQ_SF)

Hypothesis / aims of study

OABQ_SF has been translated to more than 42 languages. In Iran, we searched the available local resources including IranDoc.Org and found no Farsi Questionnaire as a tool for use in clinical and epidemiological studies of over-active bladder (OAB). Due to the relative simplicity we chose to translate and validate the OABQ_SF for OAB in Iran.

Study design, materials and methods

Through internet search and visiting websites of International Continence Society and OABq.com, we collected information about the existing questionnaires as a tool for use in OAB, and looked for the more concise and the better quality questionnaire to fulfil our intent. The original English-English questionnaire was downloaded and put at the disposal of 4 urologists and one English Language Expert to translate them into Farsi on the condition that the text should be understandable by the average Iranian patient. The translated form was submitted to another group of 4 experts to back translate it into English and its validity was confirmed. Later a focus group of 7 people was convened, including 2 patients to further discuss and focus on the items and a consensus reached at the end as to the final Farsi questionnaire. The completed Farsi questionnaire was then filled in by 22 healthy volunteers to test for internal consistency. No ethical approval was needed, but informed consent was obtained.

Results

The Cronbach's values for evaluation of symptom severity (part A) and HRQL subscales (part B) were 0.85 and 0.84 respectively. The sample included 12 males and 10 females with the mean (SD, Range) age of 36.7 (11.2, 22 - 55) years. The mean (SD, Range) of symptom severity total score was 10 (4.5, 6 - 24) and the transformed value for this was 13.2 (14, 9, 0 - 60). These figures were 19.4 (6.1, 13 - 36) and 90.1 (9.4, 64.6 - 100) for HRQL subscales total score and the transformed value, respectively. There was no linear correlation between the age and the above mentioned scores or values. There was an inverse linear correlation between the transformed values of symptom severity and HRQL subscales ($r = -0.737$, $p < 0.001$). The mean scores or values were not significantly different according to the sex of the participants.

Interpretation of results

The Cronbach's values show a relatively high internal consistency. In addition, the inverse linear correlation between the transformed values of symptom severity and HRQL subscales shows that with increasing symptom severity, the HRQL will decrease.

Concluding message

Farsi translation of OABQ_SF is now ready for test retest and larger scale epidemiological studies which will soon be conducted in Iran.

<i>Specify source of funding or grant</i>	Urology Research Unit, Tehran University of Medical Sciences
<i>Is this a clinical trial?</i>	No
<i>What were the subjects in the study?</i>	HUMAN
<i>Was this study approved by an ethics committee?</i>	Yes
<i>Specify Name of Ethics Committee</i>	Tehran University of Medical Sciences Ethics Committee
<i>Was the Declaration of Helsinki followed?</i>	Yes
<i>Was informed consent obtained from the patients?</i>	Yes