Arabic validation of the overactive bladder symptom score (OABSS) in a group of Saudi population

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Abstract

Aim: to validate an Arabic version of the overactive bladder symptom score (OABSS) in a group of Saudi population.

Methods and material:the English version of the 7-items overactive bladder symptom score (OABSS) was translated to Arabic by two certified translators then back-translated into English by two independent translators.

Results:126 patients completed the study with a mean age of 46.9 (range 20-85). Both visit assessment with Cronbach's alpha (α) =0.94 shows a high consistency level. Spearman's correlation coefficient (r) =0.88 for test-retest results for the total score of all domains.

Introduction

Overactive bladder (OAB) defined as the presence of urinary urgency with or without urgency urinary incontinence, frequency and nocturia, in the absence of UTI or other pathology.(1) Questionnaires are important subjective outcome measures that can help monitoring patient symptoms, severity, guide treatment, and measure outcomes after treatment. (2)

Several questionnaires are available in English language with limited available validated Arabic version.

Objective is to validate an Arabic version of the overactive bladder symptom score (OABSS) in a group of Saudi population.

Methods and Materials

•The English version of the 7-items overactive bladder symptom score (OABSS) was translated to Arabic by two certified translators then back translated into English. The closest version to the original questionnaire was then reviewed and adjusted by two voiding dysfunction consultants. Then it was given to sample of patients for assessment of clarity and further minor adjustment were made to reach the final version (Figure 1).

•Urology resident asked to clarify the questions and options to the patient at first visit, and then the questionnaire offered to same patients again to answer it within two weeks. Patients not competed the questionnaire or not attend the retest sit were excluded. The internal consistency was assessed by The Cronbach's alpha (α) and Spearman's correlation coefficient (r) to assess test-retest results using SPSS 20.

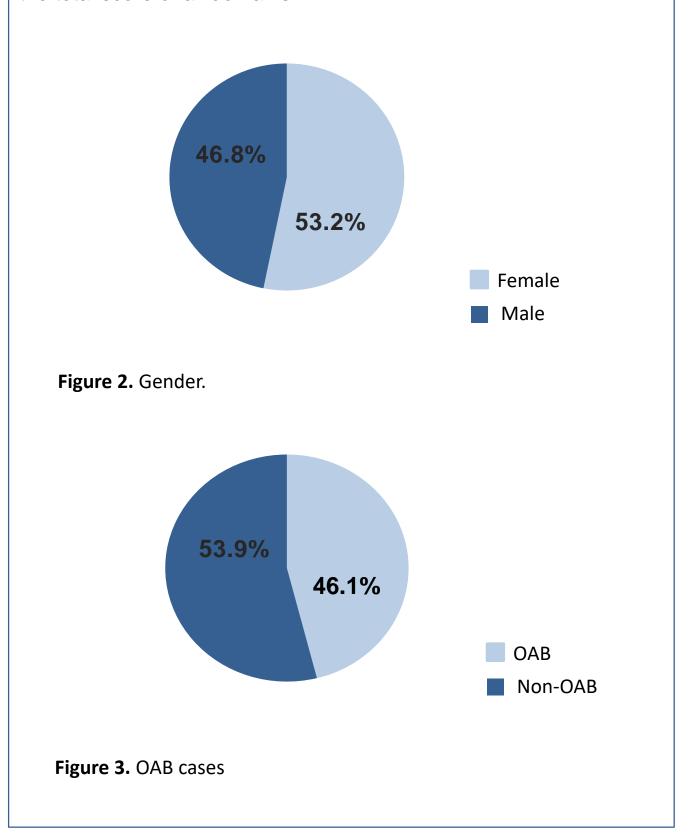
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Figure 1. OABSS questionnaire .

Results

- •One hundred and twenty six patients completed the study with mean age 46.9 (Range 26-85).
- •92.9% from participants stated that the questionnaire was clear. For non OAB score mean 19.1 +/- 6.3 vs. OAB 24.5 =/- 6.5 (P=<0.001) (Figure 2,3).
- •Both visit assessment with Cronbach's alpha (α)=0.94 which indicates a high consistency level.
- •Spearman's correlation coefficient (r)=0.88 for test-retest result for the total score of all domains.



Discussion

Overactive bladder syndrome is highly prevalent with significant effect on quality of life and daily activity.

Questionnaires are usually used to evaluate patient's symptoms and help develop effective treatment strategies.

Due to the lack of validated Arabic questionnaires, we were eager to have a validated system score to be added in patient evaluation.

Compared to similar validated versions, this Arabic version results is consistence to their results.

Hence, this version is reliable easy to fill and doesn't require any interpretation.

This grading system score will give the physicians an objective tool to be used during follow up.(3)

Conclusions

Arabic version of the overactive bladder symptom score (OABSS) is a valid and reliable method to evaluate Saudi patients with overactive bladder symptoms.

References

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