Results Caregivers (CRRS)

- The CRRS also showed good internal consistency (Chronbach’s α = .91) and test-retest reliability (ICC = .894 [two-way random, absolute agreement])
- Correlations with validation measures were strong and in the predicted direction (FACT-G r = .653; SDI r = .795; WHO-QL BREF r = .653)
- There was no evidence of floor/ceiling effects (total score). The CRRS has a possible range of 0-84. Baseline scores ranged from 20 (N=1) to 82 (N=1) with a median of 54, mean 52.44 (s.d. 14.16)
- The measure demonstrated high levels of acceptability, as indicated by the very low missing data rate (.006% baseline; .005% retest)

Modification to scales for future validation

- Several items on each scale were identified as:
  a) having poor psychometric performance with unacceptably low level of correlation with other items and low corrected item-total correlations in reliability analysis or
  b) redundant alongside other better performing similar items
- These were removed to improve the scales and reduce participant burden
- 5 items were removed from the PRRS, 10 from the CRRS
- Excluding these items, Chronbach’s α for PRRS = .90 and CRRS α = .92
- In addition, we modified the wording of 2 items on the PRRS and 3 on the CRRS

Examples of items removed from the questionnaires

- People with cancer
  I feel that support is available from the health system/ social services should I need it
  I take part in support groups and/or internet forums

Summary and Conclusions

- We developed two scales to measure broad life impacts of cancer for patients and informal caregivers
- Both scales demonstrated good internal consistency, test-retest reliability and the expected patterns of association with other measures
- Measures demonstrated high levels of acceptability; the rate of missing data was extremely low
- Measures will be further validated in a large study with a broader range of tumour sites and stages
- PROACT-IV will commence recruitment in December 2017 and will include
  - early stage (I-II) as well as advanced cancer
  - patients with head and neck, colorectal and renal cell cancers and the tumour groups represented in earlier studies
- Further validation is essential to test that the measures are sufficiently generic and appropriate for use in clinical trials and real world studies

References


Contact us: v.m.shilling@sussex.ac.uk
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