

The first original research work from a research group of AIIMS Bhubaneswar and Quality of Life Foundation has translated the EQ5D – 3L, a quality of life assessment tool into Odia language with the cooperation of the Euro QOL reviewers group.

AIIMS Bhubaneswar and AHRCC researchers have then proceeded to ascertain its validity and reliability in the out - patient and cancer population of the state: making it the only version in the country to have been validated in the Indian population. Although the copyright of all translations remains with the EuroQOL foundation, permission for academic research can be availed freely. All scientists of the state involved in research assessing the outcomes of their interventions in terms of the impact on the Quality of Life, may make use of this questionnaire. <http://www.euroqol.org/eq-5d-products .html>

ABSTRACT

Background & Objectives- The EuroQOL 5D – 3 level (EQ5D) is a versatile quality of life (QOL) instrument with five dimensions (mobility, self-care, usual activities, pain/discomfort and anxiety/depression) and a Visual Analogue Scale (VAS). It can be used to calculate quality adjusted life years. We aimed to evaluate the validity, reliability and responsiveness of an Odia version of EQ5D and to study the quality of life of cancer patients in our part of the country as cancer treatment in India still focuses largely on longevity due to scarcity of resources. **Material & Methods-** The EQ5D tool was translated into Odia language in collaboration with the EuroQol group. This tool and the WHO-5 questionnaires were administered to 155 surgical outpatients and 150 cancer patients in two hospitals of Eastern India. The convergent and discriminant validities (construct validity), concurrent validity, reliability (test retest method of administering the tool to a part of the population after 7-14 days) and the internal consistency (Cronbach's alfa) were measured by using pre-established hypotheses. The data from the cancer patients was analysed separately. **Results-** The QOL worsened with age and was worse in cancer patients proved that the tool had good construct validity. The Anxiety Depression dimension had good correlation with all the dimensions WHO-5 ($\rho > 0.4$) indicating a good concurrent validity. Internal consistency and reliability of the tool were good (Cronbach's alfa > 0.7). Cancer patients had a poor QOL (mean EQ5D index 0.37SD 0.4) with male patients, patients with grade II cancer or referred for pain care services and those with living spouses reporting worse QOL. **Conclusions** - The Odia version of the EQ5D has good reliability and validity for the measurement of health status in cancer and OPD patients. Cancer patients in this part of the country have a poor QOL and may need a closer look at pain management and improved societal support systems.