HeartQoL Validation in Patients with Heart Failure Due to Ischemic Heart Disease

Sara Walczak, BS; Susan Oiet, PhD; Christina Sauld, NP; Deborah Waller, RN, CCRC; Nasir Sulemanjee, MD

Background
Patient-reported outcome measures are increasingly used in clinical trials to evaluate quality of care. Health-related quality of life is an example of a patient-reported outcome measure. The English version of the heart disease-specific HeartQoL, with a physical and an emotional domain and a global score, health-related quality of life questionnaire has previously been validated in patients with heart disease.

Objective /Purpose
The purpose of this study was to validate the English version of the HeartQoL in patients with heart failure due to ischemic heart disease.

Methods
Patients with heart failure due to ischemic heart disease meeting clinical eligibility criteria and being treated at Aurora St. Luke’s Medical Center completed a sociodemographic questionnaire, the HeartQoL, the Short-Form 36 Health Survey, and the Hospital Anxiety and Depression Scale (HADS).

The following key psychometric properties of the HeartQoL were assessed:
- Discriminative validity
- Internal consistency reliability
- Convergent validity
- Factor structure
- Model structure

Tests performed: Two sample t test, Analysis of variance (ANOVA), Factor analysis and Mokken scale analysis

Analysis was done using SAS version 9.4 (SAS Institute Inc., Cary, NC, USA) and R package (mokken v2.8.10)

Conclusions
The English HeartQoL questionnaire demonstrated satisfactory key psychometric properties of validity and reliability in this heart failure population.

This study adds support for the HeartQoL as a core heart-specific health-related quality of life questionnaire in a broad group of patients with heart disease.