

Evaluation of the psychometric properties of the Health Assessment Questionnaire in patients with Parkinson's disease

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Objective: People living and aging with Parkinson's disease (PD) experience increasing daily life challenges due to the progressive nature of the disease [1]. Dysfunctions related to PD lead to difficulties in activities of daily living (ADL) [2-3], with loss of independence and poor quality of life (QoL). This study aims to evaluate the psychometric properties of Health Assessment Questionnaire (HAQ) in a population of individuals with PD.

Methods: This study was conducted on 34 patients diagnosed with PD from February to October 2020 in the Department of Human Neurosciences, Sapienza University of Rome. The evaluation tools administered were the Parkinson's Disease Questionnaire (PDQ-39) to evaluate the quality of life of the patients and the Health Assessment Questionnaire (HAQ), to evaluate the limitations of the ADL due to the disease.

Results: Of the 34 patients 11 were women (32.4%) and 23 men (67.6%) with a mean age of 68 years. The internal consistency of the HAQ assessed by the Cronbach's alpha was equal to 0.93. The study revealed significant correlations between the dimensions of the PDQ-39 and the subcategories of the HAQ using the Pearson Index. Significant correlations also emerged between the demographic and clinical characteristics of patients and the subcategories of HAQ.

Conclusions: The HAQ is a valid tool to assess the impact of PD on the patient's functioning and well-being and may provide the healthcare and rehabilitation sector with an additional evaluation tool.

References

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