TITLE: Quebec Back Pain Disability Scale for Low Back Pain: Accuracy and Reliability

DATE: 14 July 2015

RESEARCH QUESTION

What is the accuracy and reliability of the Quebec Back Pain Disability Scale for low back pain?

KEY FINDINGS

Two non-randomized studies were identified regarding accuracy and reliability of the Quebec Back Pain Disability Scale for low back pain.

METHODS

A limited literature search was conducted on key resources including PubMed, The Cochrane Library, University of York Centre for Reviews and Dissemination (CRD) databases, ECRI, Canadian and major international health technology agencies, as well as a focused Internet search. No filters were applied to limit the retrieval by study type, and no date limits were applied to the database searches. The search was also limited to English language documents. The search for grey literature was limited to documents published between January 1, 2010 and June 28, 2015. Internet links were provided, where available.

The summary of findings was prepared from the abstracts of the relevant information. Please note that data contained in abstracts may not always be an accurate reflection of the data contained within the full article.

SELECTION CRITERIA

One reviewer screened citations and selected studies based on the inclusion criteria presented in Table 1.
Table 1: Selection Criteria

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Population</th>
<th>Patients requiring physiotherapy:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Musculoskeletal conditions;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Injuries of particular interest</td>
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</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Intervention</th>
<th>Quebec Back Pain Disability Scale</th>
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| Comparator   | • Other back pain scales;         |
|--------------|• No comparator                    |

| Outcomes     | • Accuracy;                       |
|--------------|• Reliability;                     |
|--------------|• Ease of use                       |

| Study Designs | Health technology assessments, systematic reviews, meta-analyses, randomized controlled trials, non-randomized studies |

RESULTS

Rapid Response reports are organized so that the higher quality evidence is presented first. Therefore, health technology assessment reports, systematic reviews, and meta-analyses are presented first. These are followed by randomized controlled trials and non-randomized studies.

Two non-randomized studies were identified regarding accuracy and reliability of the Quebec Back Pain Disability Scale for low back pain. No relevant health technology assessments, systematic reviews, meta-analyses, or randomized controlled trials were identified.

Additional references of potential interest, including non-randomized studies published outside of the literature search limits, are provided in the appendix.

OVERALL SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

One non-randomized study\(^1\) compared back pain scores obtained using the Quebec Back Pain Disability Scale (QUE) and the Oswestry Disability Questionnaire. Scores using both scales were significantly higher for patients with specific pack pain versus non-specific back pain. The authors concluded that scores on the QUE scale were impacted by pain severity, type of low back pain, gender, and pain duration. A second non-randomized study\(^2\) compared scores obtained with the QUE scale before and after multidisciplinary treatment for chronic low back pain. The authors determined the smallest detectable change to be 15.8 points. Sensitivity was 78% and specificity was 77%.
REFERENCES SUMMARIZED

Health Technology Assessments
No literature identified.

Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses
No literature identified.

Randomized Controlled Trials
No literature identified.

Non-Randomized Studies


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APPENDIX – FURTHER INFORMATION:

Non-Randomized Studies Published Prior to 2010


Review Articles


Additional References