# Incontinence Quality of Life Questionnaire (I-QOL)

## Assessment Overview

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment Area</th>
<th>Summary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ICF Domain:</strong></td>
<td>The I-QOL measures the effect of urinary incontinence on quality of life.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality of Life</td>
<td>The I-QOL is divided into 3 subscales:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subcategory:</strong></td>
<td>1. Avoidance and limiting behavior (ALB)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>2. Psychosocial impact (PSI)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. Social embarrassment (SE)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### You Will Need

**Length:**
22 items – less than 30 minutes

**Scoring:**
A mean score for each subscale is calculated (averaging the scores for the items in each subscale) as well as a total score for all 22 items (sum of all subscale scores).

The scores are then transformed to a ‘Scale score’ ranging from 0-100 points for ease of interpretation: Scale score = (sum of the items – lowest possible score)/possible raw score range X 100.

## Assessment Interpretability

### Minimal Clinically Important Difference

MID (Minimally Important Difference) is approximately 4 points when defined as that corresponding to a small effect size (0.2 SD at baseline) and approximately 11 points when defined as corresponding to a medium effect size (0.5 SD at baseline).

### Statistical Error

Not established in SCI

### Typical Values

Not established in SCI

For all items, higher scores indicate less impact of urinary tract infections on quality of life.
### Measurement Properties

**Validity – Moderate**

- **Moderate** Correlation between SF-36 and I-QOL scores at week 24 for mental health.  
  \[ r = 0.45 - 0.59 \]
- **Moderate** Correlation between SF-36 and I-QOL scores at week 24 for social functioning.  
  \[ r = 0.45 - 0.59 \]
- **Moderate** Correlation between SF-36 and I-QOL scores at week 24 for vitality.  
  \[ r = 0.45 - 0.59 \]

**RANKING N/A:** Correlations between SF-36 and I-QOL scores at the end of the study (week 24) were substantial for most SF-36 domains and tended to be stronger and more likely to be significant than those at screening.

(Schurch et al. 2007, N=59 (53 SCI, 6 MS), mean age=41.2 (range: 20-72yrs), mean duration of detrusor overactivity=63mo (range: 3mo–24yrs))

**Number of studies reporting validity data:** 1

### Reliability – High

- **High** Internal consistency for the I-QOL total score  
  \[ \alpha = 0.93 \]
- **High** Internal consistency for the 3 subscales  
  \[ \alpha = 0.79-0.89 \]

(Schurch et al. 2007, N=59 (53 SCI, 6 MS), mean age=41.2 (range: 20-72yrs), mean duration of detrusor overactivity=63mo (range: 3mo–24yrs))

**Number of studies reporting reliability data:** 1

### Responsiveness

**Floor/Ceiling Effect:**

There were no ceiling effects for I-QOL total and subscales, and a small floor effect for the Social Embarrassment domain (8.9% subjects had lowest score).

**Effect Size:**

Not established in SCI

**Number of studies reporting responsiveness data:**

Not established in SCI