Incontinence Quality of Life Questionnaire (I-QOL)

Assessment Overview

Assessment Area

ICF Domain:

Quality of Life

Subcategory:

n/a

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.

Summary

The I-QOL measures the effect of urinary incontinence on quality of life.

The I-QOL is divided into 3 subscales:

1. Avoidance and limiting behavior (ALB)
2. Psychosocial impact (PSI)
3. Social embarrassment (SE)

Availability

The I-QOL can be found in the original article (Schurch et al; 2007); however, no information was found on how to access the user manual. The I-QOL is copyrighted and can be purchased at http://depts.washington.edu/seaqol/IQOL.

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=.45-.59

Moderate **Correlation between SF-36 and I-QOL scores at week 24 for social functioning.**

r=.45-.59

Moderate **Correlation between SF-36 and I-QOL scores at week 24 for vitality.**

r=.45-.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**

a=0.93

High **Internal consistency for the 3 subscales**

a=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