Abstract

Patient Preference and Adherence  [ARTICLE IN PRESS]

A Factor Analytic Study of the Italian National Institute of Health Quality of Life - Core Evaluation Form (ISSQoL-CEF)


Objectives: The Italian National Institute of Health - Quality of Life - Core Evaluation Form (ISSQoL-CEF) is a specific questionnaire measuring health related quality of life (HRQoL) for HIV-infected people in the era of highly active antiretroviral therapy (HAART). The main goal of this study was to examine the construct validity of this questionnaire by confirmation of its hypothesized dimensional structure.

Methods: Baseline quality of life data from four clinical studies were collected and a Confirmatory Factor Analysis of the ISSQoL-CEF items was carried out. Both first-order and second-order factor models were tested: Model 1 with nine correlated first-order factors; Model 2 with three correlated second-order factors (Physical, Mental and Social Health); Model 3 with two correlated second-order factors (Physical and Mental/Social Health); Model 4 with only one second-order factors (General Health).

Results: A total of 261 patients were surveyed. Model 1 had a good fit to the data. Model 2 had an acceptable fit to the data and it was the best of all hierarchical models. However, Model 2 fitted the data worse than Model 1.