

QUALITY OF LIFE, QUALITY OF CARE, AND PATIENT SAFETY

DEVELOP DERMATOLOGY-SPECIFIC QUALITY OF LIFE QUESTIONNAIRE IN CHINA (CDS-QOL)

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Background: Culture adaption is important for evaluating quality of life(QOL). However, most QOL instruments assessing patients with skin disease were designed due to western culture background. There is no instrument fitting for Chinese culture and society till now.

Objective: To design an instrument to evaluate the quality of life of patients with skin diseases in China.

Materials and Methods: Patients with skin diseases were recruited from outpatient clinics. The questionnaire development consisted of item generation, item reduction, Rasch analysis to create final scale and validation.

Results: Through literature review and investigation into 50 skin diseased patients, 88 items were developed, which was reduced to 86 items based on experts and patients discussions. A 16-items scale was ultimately developed. The split-half coefficient valued 0.883 and Cronbach's alpha of the scale was 0.949, indicating good internal consistency. Factor analysis demonstrated good construct validity.

Conclusion: This is the first Chinese-culture adapted QOL instrument for dermatoses with adequate reliability and validity. In the future, studies would focus other psychometric properties of the scale and also on further applications of the instruments.