CONSTRUCTING A CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM FOR A NEW QALY MEASURE IN MENTAL HEALTH:
RECOVERING QUALITY OF LIFE (ReQoL)
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AIM: To develop a classification amenable to valuation for use in mental health as it has been recognised that EQ-5D, the most widely used generic measure used in the UK, is not appropriate in many areas of mental health.

Stage 1: Identifying Domains
Systematic qualitative literature review
Qualitative interviews (n = 19)
7 themes identified: 6 mental health and 1 physical health Connell et al. (2014, 2012)

Stage 2: Generating item pool
1597 Items were generated from: interview manuscripts, additional items from users and existing instruments

Stage 3: Face and content validity
Individual interviews and focus groups with service users: adults (n = 59); adolescents (n = 17); Polish and Urdu speakers (n = 15)
Translatability assessment conducted by MAPI
Service users added a further 10 items and the Scientific Group reduced the number of items using all available evidence
61-item ReQoL

Stage 4: Field testing
Exploratory Factor Analysis
Item Response Theory
61-item ReQoL administered (n = 2262)
Two factors identified: negatively worded and positively worded items. 21 items eliminated
40-item ReQoL

Stage 5: Further field testing
Exploratory Factor Analysis,
Item Response Theory,
Responsiveness
40 -item ReQoL administered at baseline (n = 4253) and follow-up (n = 1153)
Factor analysis results: Bifactor model (global and method factors) and two-factor model provide best fit

Stage 6: Further face and content validity
6 Focus groups with a total of 35 mental health clinicians across professions
Participants chose their preferred items for each domain from the 40-item ReQoL

FINAL ITEM SELECTION: Principles
1. All 6 mental health domains are to be represented in the final version of the ReQoL
2. All items must have service user acceptability and clinician acceptability
3. All items must demonstrate acceptable psychometric properties following the application of multiple analyses

Combining qualitative and quantitative evidence, the final 10-item ReQoL was constructed. It contains:
• 10 mental health items (5 frequency-based response options) and 1 optional physical health item (5 severity-based response options)
• 4 negatively worded and 6 positively worded items
• a recall period of 1 week

NEXT STEP: Preference weights for the ReQoL to generate QALYs

For further information about ReQoL, please contact Anju Keetharuth
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