



Description of the KIDSCREEN-52

Health-Related Quality of Life Questionnaire for Children and Young People Global HRQoL index

The KIDSCREEN generic health related quality of life measure for children and adolescents was developed within a European project “Screening and Promotion for Health-related Quality of Life in Children and Adolescents - A European Public Health Perspective” funded by the European Commission. The project has taken place over 3 years (2001-2004) and participants of the project are Austria, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Poland, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, The Netherlands, and the United Kingdom (Acknowledgement: The KIDSCREEN project was financed by the European Commission grant number QLG-CT-2000- 00751 within the EC 5th Framework-Programme “Quality of Life and Management of Living Resources”).

The KIDSCREEN-52 instrument measures 10 HRQoL dimensions: Physical- (5 items), Psychological Well-being (6 items), Moods and Emotions (7 items), Self-Perception (5 items), Autonomy (5 items), Parent Relations and Home Life (6 items), Social Support and Peers (6 items), School Environment (6 items), Social Acceptance (Bullying) (3 items), Financial Resources (3 items).

It was constructed and pilot tested using the data of more than 3.000 European children and adolescents. In addition to common psychometric analyses, Item-Response-Theory Analysis and Structural Equation Modelling were performed to determine the optimal item and scale characteristics of the questionnaire. One focus of analyses was to identify items showing differential item functioning (DIF). The control of DIF enables comparable measurement of the identified quality of life dimensions across the 13 European countries.

The KIDSCREEN-52 was used in representative mail surveys of HRQOL in approximately 1800 children and their parents per country (total n = 22296) and normative data were produced. The final analysis involving national and cross-cultural analysis of the instruments confirmed the results of the pilot test. The sub-scales enable true cross-cultural measurement on interval scale level by fulfilling the assumption of the Rasch model and displaying no DIF.

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