Abstract Preview - Step 3/4

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Topic: 11. Nursing / Psychosocial Issues

Title: **Italian Translation of Gastrointestinal (GI) Symptom Tracker in Patients with Cystic Fibrosis**

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Text: **Objectives:** Patients with CF have frequent gastrointestinal symptoms (GI), stool issues, abdominal pain, and poor enzyme adherence. There is currently no standardized measure of these symptoms; CF clinics rely on patient report, leading to *under-reporting*. Recently, Quittner developed an electronic, patient-reported outcome measure of these GI problems for ages 13 thru adulthood (GI Symptom Tracker). Items were developed using qualitative interviews and cognitive testing in 3 centers (n=40). A national psychometric evaluation was performed in 11 centers (n=179), demonstrating good reliability and validity. The Italian translation was created using FDA (2009) and EMA guidelines (2007).
Aim was to conduct a backward and forward translation of the GI Symptom Tracker from English into Italian using independent translators and developer, followed by cognitive testing.
Methods: Two native Italian speakers, experts in CF (psychologist, gastroenterologist), translated the GI Tracker from English into Italian. A teleconference was conducted to discuss and resolve discrepancies to produce the "consensus forward" Italian version, focusing on cultural equivalence and medical terms used by patients. The consensus measure was back-translated into English by 2 Italian speakers with strong English skills, followed by a teleconference to ensure the instructions, items, and rating scales conveyed original meaning ("harmonization"). It was administered to 5 individuals using cognitive probes to assess clarity of items, rating scales, and comprehensiveness.
Results: The GI Symptom Tracker underwent all steps recommended by international guidelines. The Italian version was programmed for administration and scoring on an iPad.
Conclusion: This is the 1st standardized measure of GI symptoms, nutrition and enzyme adherence for people with CF. It provides a systematic assessment to increase effective treatment. The Italian GI Symptom Tracker is now ready for clinical and research purposes.

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