

Poster presentation

Pilot study to validate a scoliosis-specific instrument that measures quality of life and treatment effect

Katie Sherman

Address: 7027 North Seneca Avenue, Glendale, WI 53217, USA

Email: Katie Sherman - QualityInsights@sbcglobal.net

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Objective

To develop a reliable, valid instrument to measure the quality of life of scoliosis patients and treatment effect for scoliosis.

Study design

The instrument's questions were derived from SF-36 and Brace Questionnaire subscales, and common complaints of adolescents with scoliosis. Questions ask about a patient's social, mental, and physical functioning, roles (in school, family, etc.), pain, general health, and the value placed on treatment. Surveys will be completed by patients at Spinal Dynamics of Wisconsin. The data will be analyzed using item-convergent validity, floor and ceiling effects, internal consistency, and clinical external validity.

Results and conclusion

Upon successful completion of this study, a reliable and valid instrument will have been developed, and the minimum necessary sample size will have been determined for future use.