Reviewer's report

Title: Quality of life in patients with gastric cancer: translation and psychometric evaluation of the Iranian version of the EORTC QLQ-STO22

Version: 2 Date: 15 June 2009

Reviewer: Juan Ignacio Arraras

Reviewer's report:

I consider there is a need of validation studies of instruments like the EORTC Quality of Life questionnaires, for its use in individual countries. So I think the present study as quite useful

- I do not think there is a need of major revision

- There are some Minor Essential Revisions I would like to suggest:

1. have the authors followed a criteria for sample size calculation?. Maybe 5 patients per item?

Table 2: I think it could be interesting if authors added some more explanations that might help the readers to better understand the table

- Discretionary Revisions

1. Maybe patients have made comments about: any confusing or upsetting item, or any other type of comment?

2. do the authors know if any patient was invited to participate in the study and did not take part in it?

3. low Alpha coefficients in the ‘eating restrictions’ scale: do the authors consider that the low SD levels (14, 15.2) may have influenced these alpha coefficients?

4. The authors say in the discussion that the score in the global QL scale was the lowest. I am wondering if these low scores in the global QL scale have been also found in other QL studies (with different tumors) in which the EORTC instruments have been administered

5. Do the authors consider that a 4 weeks period between the two assessments might be a bit long period for patients receiving palliative treatment

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.
Declaration of competing interests:

'I declare that I have no competing interests'