Reviewer's report

Title: A Systematic Review of the Psychometric Properties of Quality of Life measures for primary school aged children with Cerebral Palsy

Version: 5 Date: 3 August 2010

Reviewer: Susan Ishoy Michelsen

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This is an useful, needed and well written review of instruments to measure quality of life in children with cerebral palsy.

Discretionary revision (comments to points earlier raised):

1. Comparison with children in the general population is now based on three studies, ref. 3-5.

Unfortunately I have not been able to access ref. 3 (Tuzun EH et al. “An assessment of the impact of cerebral palsy on children’s quality of life”, Fizyoterapi Rehabilitasyon).

Ref. 4 is based on the CHQ-instrument, which has been widely used, but is now more often described as a measure of functional or health status and less a measure of quality of life.

Ref. 5 is based on Pedsql, which is described as a HRQOL measure. However I agree with the authors that Pedsql does include several items reflecting difficulties of completing daily tasks instead of the child’s feeling of his/her position in life.

It would be beneficial to have references from studies based on generic instruments reflecting the WHO’s definition of quality of life for example by including domains of quality of life decided by the children themselves (for example Kidscreen – and for CP specific instruments CP QOL). Especially since studies based on this type of instruments might have conclusions conflicting with the already mentioned studies.

2. Modification of the CanChild rating form is now described. Although I still do not understand why self-completion of questionnaire was not chosen as example of “clinical utility”.

3. Content of table 3, 4 and Appendix A are fine.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable
**Statistical review:** Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

'I declare that I have no competing interests'