Reviewer's report

Title: An instrument assessing patient satisfaction with general day care in hospitals

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Reviewer: Laurent Boyer

Reviewer's report:

This article addresses an important and interesting topic: patient satisfaction with general day care in hospitals. It is clearly written and its conclusions are reasonable. However, this manuscript could be improved.

Major Compulsory Revisions:

1/ I would have organized the method section – statistical analysis according the following categories, and also better described the statistical methods:

- construct validity: principal component factor analyses with varimax rotation? Eigenvalues greater than or equal to 1?

The authors have written that items were included in the dimensions if they revealed loadings greater than 0.4, but what was the rule in case of multiple loading of an item on several factors. Please explain.

- reliability: please use the ‘term’ Item-internal consistency and item discriminant validity.

- and some aspects of external validity: comparison with age, gender … Please provide hypothesis? and present the results in a table.

- Acceptability: proportions of missing values, proportion of response

2/ The uni-dimensionality of each dimension should be assessed using Rasch analysis. The goodness-of-fit statistics (INFIT), ranging between 0.7 and 1.3 ensured that all items of the scale measured the same concept.

3/ Please indicate which software was used for the data analysis.

4/ Do the author have information on the non-responders, can they compare it to the responders? Bias of non response?

5/ I would recommand to the authors to present their results in the following tables. It would be easier to read the psychometric properties of their instrument and after that to discuss it.

Table 1: Patients characteristics (OK)
Table 2: Factor analysis (OK, without mean +/-SD)
Table 3: Dimension characteristics of COPS-D

Dimension/Index (number of items)
Mean (SD) Missing values (%)
Item internal consistency
min-max
Item discriminant validity
min-max
Floor (%)
Ceiling (%)
Alpha Infit
min-max
....

Table 3: Interdimensional correlations and correlations between dimensions and visual analogue scale
Table 4: Association between COPS-D dimension scores and gender, age...

Level of interest: An article of importance 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:

Absence of competing interest