Reviewer's report

Title: Validation of the Global Activity Limitation Indicator in Taiwan

Version: 0 Date: 17 Oct 2018

Reviewer: Herman J. Van Oyen

Reviewer's report:

I congratulate the authors for the manuscript well done.
I have some minor comments.

1. Introduction
The authors make especially reference to previous European studies which were transnational, whereas several national studies have evaluated the concurrent validity (the association of GALI with other health measures, accounting for the severity level of GALI) and next to this the predictive validity of future health outcomes. A review of the different validation studies has been published (Van Oyen H et al. Measuring disability: a systematic review of the validity and reliability of the Global Activity Limitations Indicator (GALI). Arch Public Health. 2018 May 28;76:25.

2. Page 2 line 44
I suggest that next to ref 3, reference is made to the manuscript published by Berger N et al. Harmonising summary measures of population health using global survey instruments. J Epidemiol Community Health. 2016 Oct;70(10):1039-44, as in this paper the criteria for a global measure of disability are discussed. This paper is in fact more appropriate with reference to "A potential solution", while current ref 3 still fits the reference to the use a tool to monitor healthy life years within Europe.

It may not be necessary to provide the 95% CI of all the study and country specific OR estimates in the introduction.

4. Page 3 line 72 and discussion
The authors of ref 5 discussed that part of the heterogeneity in the strength of the OR may be due to heterogeneity in the survey methodology between the countries.

5. Table 3 and discussion
The estimation of the strength of the OR of the mental health indicator is provided only "over and above" the measure of association between GALI and ADL/IADL. Did the author consider
a sensitivity analysis to measure the concurrent validity of GALI with the mental health indicator in the subpopulation with no ADL/IADL limitations?

6. Title of tables should all refer to the study, place and time

**Are the methods appropriate and well described?**
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

**Does the work include the necessary controls?**
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

**Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?**
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes

**Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?**
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

I am able to assess the statistics

**Quality of written English**
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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