Reviewer’s report

Title: Adaptation and validation of the PedsQLTM Oral Health Scale for toddlers in Chilean Population

Version: 0 Date: 23 Aug 2019

Reviewer: Cristiane Bendo

Reviewer's report:

The reported aim of this study was to cross-culturally adapt the PedsQL Oral Health Scale into Chilean Spanish and assess its reliability and validity. It is a well written manuscript and seems to be well designed. However, I have a concern about what age group's form was adapted and validated, because there is no form that includes children from 2 to 5 years old. There is a form to 2-4 and another to 5-7 years old. The authors must carry out some major revisions in order to improve the manuscript.

Minor Essential Revisions

* Line 98 - The PedsQLTM Oral Health Scale has not 4.0.
* Line 227 - Check the percent values with the Table #1.
* Line 229 - "The prevalence of caries in the population examined was 53.8%". It refers to dental caries experience (dmft ≥1). "Prevalence of caries" could mean caries cavities (decayed teeth ≥1).
* Line 446 - Update the reference #18.

Major Compulsory Revisions

Title

* The PedsQL Oral Health Scale is an instrument from 2 to 18 years-old, and this study validated only the instrument for toddlers (2-4 years-old). Thus, the title is not adequate since it does not inform that study only makes available toddler's Spanish version of the PedsQL OH. The same information should be also clear in the aim of the study. Still in title, it is important to inform that the instrument was adapted for Spanish from Chile.
Introduction

* In the 4th paragraph, the authors have made a little confusion about the generic PedsQL instrument and those condition-specifics. The authors imply that specific modules for various chronic diseases and clinical situations are part of the generic instrument, what is not true. They are different instruments that could be used along with the PedsQL Generic Core Scale.

Materials and Methods

* The study affirms that the pre-school version of the PedsQL Oral Health is completed by parents or guardians. It also affirms that pre-school children aged 2 to 5 years were included. However, there is not a form for this specific age group. Parent report forms are available for children ages 2 to 18 years that consist of a toddler form (2-4 years), a young child form (5-7 years), a child form (8-12 years), and an adolescent form (13-18 years). Child and adolescent self-report forms are available for respondents ages 5 to 7 years, 8 to 12 years, and 13 to 18 years. Thus, the authors should inform which forms were cross-culturally adapt and validated for Chile.

* Was intra-examiner agreement performed?

* In 3rd paragraph of the Statistical Analysis, I suggest informing the parameters values for Cronbach's alpha and ICC, in the same way that the authors did for convergent validity. The same suggestion for floor and ceiling effects. To provide these values is useful for readers interpret results.

Results

* Line 236 - What does mean "The item most frequently reported as being affected"? Does it refer to frequency of "if it is almost always a problem" response?

* Line 265 - It were expected that Spearman correlation coefficient between PedsQL and ECOHIS would be negative, since higher scores indicate better OHRQoL for PedsQL and worse OHRQoL for ECOHIS.

Discussion

* Line 320 - It is not clear how did the authors measured the improvement of performances of PedsQL Generic Core with the inclusion of the PedsQL Oral Health Scale. I did not understand the p-values presented at the end of this sentence.
Tables and Figure

* Table 2 - Title could be more informative about the analyses presented in this table.
* In tables, I suggest including footnotes explaining the abbreviations used in each table, as well as the statistical tests performed.
* Figure 1 - What do mean the values inside rectangles (items)?

**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

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Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

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