Author's response to reviews

Title: Evaluation of the internal construct validity of the Personal Care Participation Assessment and Resource Tool (PC-PART) using Rasch analysis

Authors:

Susan W Darzins (SSdarz001@myacu.edu.au)
Christine Imms (Christine.Imms@acu.edu.au)
Marilyn Di Stefano (m.distefano@latrobe.edu.au)
Nicholas F Taylor (Nicholas.Taylor@easternhealth.org.au)
Julie F Pallant (jpellant@unimelb.edu.au)

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Editor,

Thank you for accepting our manuscript, subject to revisions, titled: Evaluation of the internal construct validity of the Personal Care Participation Assessment and Resource Tool (PC-PART) using Rasch Analysis, as a research article for inclusion in BMC Health Services Research.

The manuscript has been revised and is now submitted using ‘track changes’ so that the reviewer is able to see the exact changes that have been made to the original manuscript.

Changes made, with reference to line numbers in the track-changes document:

1. Line 6 - Christine Imms’ affiliation to La Trobe University was removed.

2. Line 9 – Affiliation number 1 – Updated name of school to the School of Allied Health and Public

3. Lines 17 and 20 - I have updated the main email address for correspondence to Susan.Darzins@acu.edu.au

4. Referee 1 requested corrections to two phrasing errors: at line 39 and 79. These corrections were made, exactly as suggested.
   - Line 39: Data used in this research were taken from
   - Line 79 (now line 80): may depend not only on the content (removed partly)

5. Referee 2 requested that the findings be linked more clearly to the current literature and the implications of the study be more clearly described. These changes were made to the Discussion section of the manuscript:
   - Line 425 – removal of reference 40 as this reference was not directly linked to the statement;
   - Line 432 – Reference to supporting literature (references 40 and 41) was inserted.
   - Lines 433-439 – A fuller explanation of the implications of the more complete and useful measurement of ADL functioning offered by the PC-PART scales being, that such measurement of ADL functioning may enable existing barriers to patients’ discharge to community living to be identified and addressed. In this way, the PC-PART scales may assist decision-making by health care team, consistent with the original purpose of the PC-PART. Reference to supporting literature (references 41 and 42) as well as the original PC-PART references (13, 29) were inserted.
   - Lines 449-468 – Insertion of additional text, plus editing of existing text provided an explanation of the broader implications of using the validated PC-PART scales at the level of health care system management and at a community level to measure the magnitude of, and describe the nature of ADL participation restrictions in specified populations. References to recent literature were inserted (references 43-46) supporting the need for such measurement.
• Lines 487-498 – insertion of additional text provided explanation of the implications of being able to use interval level measurement to measure ADL participation restrictions in order to have an impact at a health system level. Recent supporting literature from Australia was used to exemplify this point (reference 41).

• Lines 503-506 – existing text was edited to provide clarity. No new concepts introduced.

• Line 515 – the word respectively was added to make the sentence clearer

• Lines 521-526 – existing text was edited to provide clarity. No new concepts introduced.

• Lines 528-552 – existing text was edited to provide clarity. No new concepts introduced.

• Line 555 – inserted the word their to add clarity.

No additional changes have been made to the original manuscript, other than those changes detailed in this letter.

We look forward to your feedback about this revised manuscript.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Susan Darzins

Correspondent for the authors: Susan Darzins, Christine Imms, Marilyn Di Stefano, Nicholas Taylor and Julie Pallant, e-mail: Susan.Darzins@acu.edu.au