



# International Hub for Quality of Life Research

## Information for WHOQOL Users

Thank you for your interest in the WHOQOL (World Health Organisation Quality of Life Assessment). We are continuing to develop and standardise various versions of the WHOQOL; internationally these scales have been administered to more than 30,000 people in over 80 countries world-wide.

### Core Instruments

The WHOQOL-100 contains 100 questions covering 25 facets or dimensions of quality of life that have a high level of international consensus. Some socio-demographic and health information is also collected. There is an optional appendix of questions about the importance of these facets to quality of life (Importance Questions). The UK-WHOQOL-100 includes two additional national questions covering issues that are important to people in UK.

A short form of 26 items - the WHOQOL Bref - has now been developed. These versions of the WHOQOL have good properties of reliability, validity and sensitivity to change in UK and internationally (Skevington, Lotfy and O'Connell, 2004; Diehr et al 2006; Skevington and McCrate, 2012).

### Modules for Specific Conditions or Diseases

To satisfy measurement requirements in certain diseases and conditions, some modules of specific items have been developed that have been added into one of the two core instruments: The WHOQOL-BREF and WHOQOL-100. These modules of items must **not** be used alone, that is in isolation from one of the two core instruments.

These modules related to health and quality of life have been developed using the WHOQOL methodology and are available in multiple language versions including English.

- The WHOQOL-SRPB covers Spiritual, Religious and Personal Beliefs
- The WHOQOL-HIV for people living with HIV and Aids
- The WHOQOL-Old for Older adults (60+ years)
- The WHOQOL-Pain for people in chronic pain (UK only)

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## Publications

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### Access to the Questionnaires

Once your registration has been accepted, you will be given access to documents relating to the instrument you wish to use. It is only possible to download the files for one of the WHOQOL family of questionnaires on each registration occasion.

**You must download all the files for the instrument you have selected once registered.**

**Templates designed for your data entry, and syntax files that enable scoring, have been created in SPSS (version 20).**

**You will need to have installed SPSS on your computer to view them.**

For the WHOQOL-100 and WHOQOL-BREF these documents include:

- A copy of the requested instrument
- An empty template file ready for easy data entry
- Information about data entry
- A syntax file for score transformation to be used when data collection is complete
- Information about scoring
- A list of UK and some international WHOQOL publications for reference

*Manual* information for the WHOQOL-100, the WHOQOL-BREF and the WHOQOL-HIV can be downloaded from the website of the World Health Organisation; (Health topics: Mental Health - [http://www.who.int/topics/mental\\_health/en/](http://www.who.int/topics/mental_health/en/))

For WHOQOL instruments other than the WHOQOL-100 or WHOQOL-BREF, the full information may not be available.

Answers to some Frequently Asked Questions are provided on the IHQoLR website at University of Manchester, but if you have other questions or need further information please contact us.

**Please print this information, and keep a copy.**



Professor Suzanne Skevington