

Establishing a Welsh language version of the PROMIS-10

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Introduction

Despite the growing need for language and cultural awareness in health research, there is a paucity of measures available in Welsh to enhance the reliability and validity of instruments as outcome measures for trials and research studies conducted in the bilingual context of Wales. LLAIS is embedded in the NWORD Trials Unit and funded by Health and Care Research Wales to identify, prioritize and develop Welsh translations and linguistic validations of health measures for the research infrastructure across Wales; and explore ways of establishing the psychometric validation data to examine their response amongst different populations.

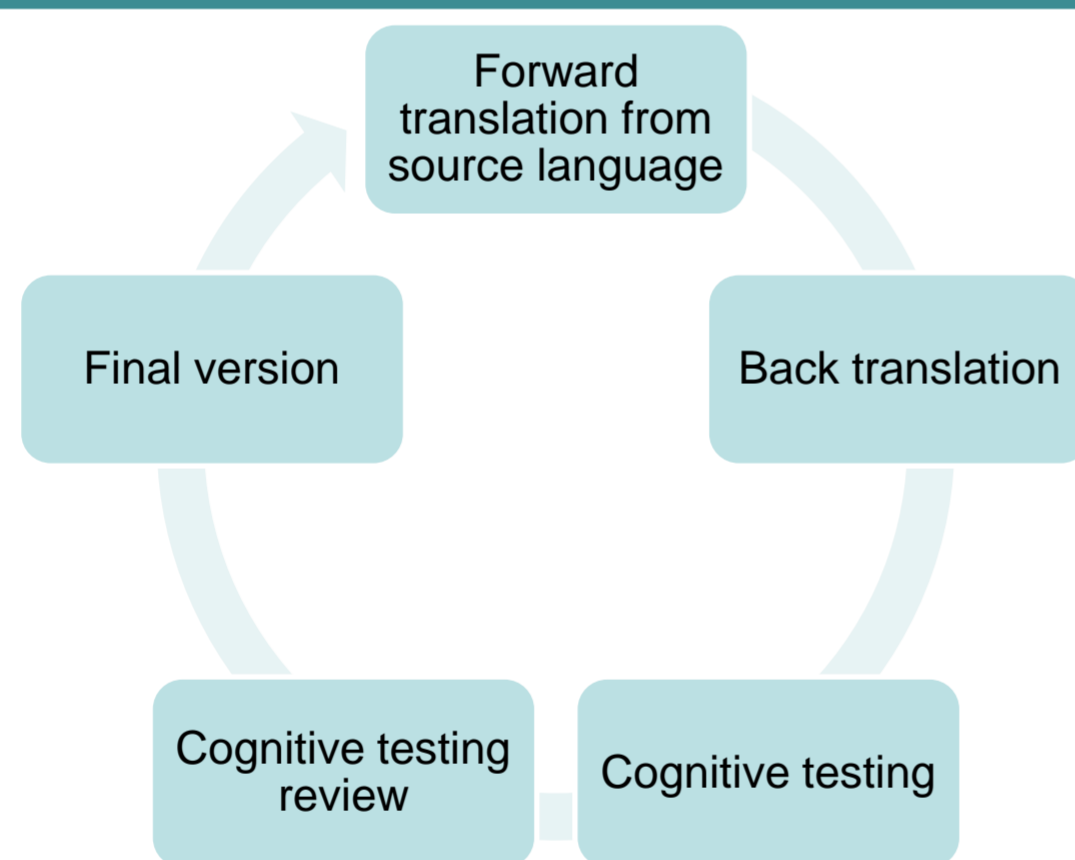
Aims and objectives of PROMIS-10 validation

To prioritise and establish a Welsh language version of the PROMIS-10 health outcome measure through:

- Undertaking the translation and linguistic validation of a Welsh language version of the PROMIS-10 measure to benefit the clinical as well as research context
- Making the Welsh version of the PROMIS-10 measure available on the interactive web resource, MI-CYM <http://micym.org/llais/static/index.html>, to aid accessibility for clinicians and researchers.

Methods

A lengthy step-by-step process with quality control steps and cognitive testing was undertaken to ensure that both conceptual and semantic equivalence are achieved. The steps were as follows. (See <http://micym.org/llais/static/translations.html>)



Findings

As well as professional translators, a language terminologist, and healthcare professionals, twelve members of the RHOI LLAIS database gave their opinion on a version of the Welsh language PROMIS-10 in focus group sessions or in face to face interviews to ensure clarity of the questions. Changes were made to the wording based on these discussions and final comments from the language terminologist. Example changes:

Question	Pre-final version	English translation	Final version	English translation	Comment
Global 01, 02, 03, 04, 05, 09r,	Yn gyffredinol	In general	Ar y cyfan	On the whole	'On the whole' is equivalent to 'in general', but 'ar y cyfan' (on the whole) favoured by participants and terminologist
Global 09r	Pa mor dda yr ydych yn cyflawni eich gweithgareddau a dyletswyddau cymdeithasol arferol yn gyffredinol?	How good are you at carrying out your usual activities and normal social duties in general?	Pa mor dda ydych chi'n cyflawni eich gweithgareddau a dyletswyddau cymdeithasol arferol ar y cyfan?	How well do you carry out your usual activities and normal social duties on the whole?	'Yr ydych yn' (you are) was abbreviated to 'ydych chi'n' (do you) 'On the whole' is equivalent to 'in general', but 'ar y cyfan' (on the whole) favoured by participants and terminologist
Global 06	Yn aml iawn	Very often	Yn llwyr	Completely	The word was 'completely' in the English version and 'yn llwyr' was accepted as a change to the final Welsh version.

Conclusion

Since June 2018, the PROMIS-10 has been available for practitioners and researchers to use in Wales. It is hoped that this free to use tool will be of benefit in facilitating patients and participants to participate in Welsh. The LLAIS linguistic validation work makes significant contribution towards establishing robust systems to ensure conduct and delivery of clinical trials of the highest quality that meet regulatory and governance requirements whilst advancing methodological approaches of international significance. To date, 43 outcome measures are listed on the micym.org website and around 40 of these have been linguistically validated by LLAIS, NWORD Trials Unit with hugely appreciated support and contribution from the members of the RHOI LLAIS database (see <http://nworth-ctu.bangor.ac.uk/llais/rhoi-llais.php.en>).

Prioritisation of health measures for Welsh translation

Prioritisation

The *Welsh Health Measures Scoping Review and Survey* (Roberts et al, 2013) gave some indication as to the priorities of health care professionals and researchers for Welsh language versions of health measures. Nevertheless, this list is by no means complete and we continue to scope requirements.

Linguistic validation

In order to assure the technical, linguistic and conceptual equivalence of health measures, a number of international evidence-based protocols have been developed to guide the translation process (Wild et al., 2005; MAPI, 2005).

Psychometric validation

Once a measure has been translated, its psychometric properties should be re-established to ensure that the scale is comparable with the original measure. Roberts et al., (2012) describes how a psychometric validation study of the Welsh BDI-II was embedded into an on NWORD clinical trial (FOLATED).

Pages 1 and 2 of the Welsh version of the PROMIS-10. Available to download on micym.org



Logo of the micym.org website



Please follow @micymraeg for up to date information on Welsh measures.

References

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