

## **PSYCHOMETRIC EVALUATION OF STANFORD HEALTH ASSESSMENT QUESTIONNAIRE 8-ITEM DISABILITY SCALE (HAQ SHORT FORM) IN IRANIAN ELDERLY PEOPLE RESIDING IN NURSING HOMES**

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**Objectives:** The HAQ Short form has been widely used in patients especially in patients with articular diseases. With attention to physical status of most old population residing in nursing homes; it seems, this tool is suitable for disability assessment in this group. So, this study was designed to evaluate the reliability and validity of the HAQ short form in older Iranians residing in nursing home, Kashan-Iran, 2006.

**Methods:** The HAQ short form was translated from English to Persian through back & forward method. The sampling was performed using census method in Kashan Golabchi nursing home (n=100). After their informed consent, the questionnaires were completed through interview and observation by two personnel of the mentioned center. Inter-rater agreement was assessed. Reliability was determined via internal consistency (Item- total Correlation, Cronbach's alpha and split-half). Validity was determined via Criterion – Related validity (Concurrent V.) and Construct Validity (Known-groups approach). In recent method, the samples were divided into 4 groups, according to age groups suggested by WHO; and then HAQ short form scores were compared among 4 groups. The data were analyzed using Pearson correlation coefficient, Intra-class correlation coefficient (ICC), Kappa, Equal - Length spearman-brown, Guttman, Cronbach's alpha coefficient and Kruskal-wallis test.

**Results:** In 0-100 scale, HAQ score was  $30/86 \pm 35/82$ . The inter-rater reliability for every item was excellent (Kappa>0/75); Inter-rater reliability in the total HAQ was reported 0/992(ICC). The questionnaire reliability coefficient (internal consistency) was calculated 0/95-0/98. Item-total correlation confirmed its reliability too. Its concurrent validity with Persian original Barthel index was confirmed( $r = 0/92$ ,  $p < 0/0001$ ). The known-groups approach also revealed this tool is valid ( $p < 0/0001$ ).

**Conclusion:** The Persian HAQ short form for evaluation of disability in elderly Iranians residing in nursing homes is valid and reliable.