



Original article

Forgotten Joint Score – Portuguese translation and cultural adaptation of the instrument of evaluation for hip and knee arthroplasties[☆]



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ABSTRACT

Objective: To translate and adapt culturally to Brazilian Portuguese the Forgotten Joint Score (FJS) patient-reported outcome questionnaire.

Methods: Forty-five patients in the postoperative period (3–12 months) of total knee and hip arthroplasty were asked to answer the Br FJS questionnaire, translated into Portuguese based on the guidelines of the International Society for Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research (ISPOR).

Results: Twenty-three patients completed the questionnaire correctly, suggesting changes when pertinent. In the first round of answers, it was observed that 20% had difficulty in understanding the expression “joint awareness.” In further harmonization of the questionnaire, it was decided to change the term “awareness” for “remember.” After this change no difficulty was observed in understanding for more than 85% of patients.

Conclusion: The FJS questionnaire was translated and culturally adapted to Brazilian Portuguese. Additional studies are underway to compare the reproducibility and validity of the Brazilian translation to other questionnaires already established for the same outcome.

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Tradução e adaptação cultural para a língua portuguesa do instrumento de avaliação para artroplastias de quadril e joelho *Forgotten Joint Score*

R E S U M O

Palavras-chave:

Joelho
Quadril
Artroplastia

Objetivo: Traduzir para a língua portuguesa e adaptar culturalmente para o Brasil o questionário autoavaliativo *Forgotten Joint Score* (FJS) para mensuração de desfecho clínico em artroplastia total de joelho e quadril.

Métodos: O processo de tradução seguiu as diretrizes da *International Society for Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research* (ISPOR). Quarenta e cinco pacientes em pós-operatório (3-12 meses) de artroplastia total de joelho e quadril foram selecionados para responder ao *Forgotten Joint Score* traduzido para o português (Br-FJS) para a validação cultural do questionário.

Resultados: Responderam o questionário de maneira correta e sugeriram mudanças quando acharam pertinentes 23 pacientes. No primeiro ciclo de respostas, observou-se que 20% dos pacientes apresentaram dificuldade de compreensão da expressão “consciência articular”. Em nova harmonização do questionário, optou-se pela mudança da expressão “consciência” para a expressão “lembrar”. Após a mudança, mais de 85% dos pacientes não apresentaram dificuldades de compreensão.

Conclusão: O questionário FJS foi traduzido e adaptado culturalmente para o português do Brasil. Estudos adicionais estão em andamento para comparar a reprodutibilidade e validade da tradução brasileira a outros questionários já estabelecidos para o mesmo desfecho.

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Introduction

Hip and knee arthroplasties are surgical procedures that successfully treat lower limb pain and function in patients with coxarthrosis and gonarthrosis.¹⁻³ However, the outcome evaluation of these surgeries has changed over the years.^{4,5} Self-assessment methods based on postoperative quality of life were shown to be more relevant in the determination of surgical success than the clinical parameters assessed by surgeons,⁶ since the relevant improvement points for patients after arthroplasties may differ significantly from the clinical outcomes criteria used, without the bias of interobserver and intraobserver analysis.^{7,8}

The questionnaires frequently used to measure quality of life after arthroplasty that have been translated into Brazilian Portuguese are generic osteoarthritis assessment instruments, such as the Medical Outcomes Study 36-Item Short Form Health Survey (SF-36) and the Western Ontario and McMaster Universities Osteoarthritis Index (WOMAC).⁹ The Knee Injury and Osteoarthritis Outcome Score (KOOS),¹⁰ Hip Outcome Score (HOS),¹¹ and Knee Society Score (KSS)¹² are more specific for the knee and hip joints. However, they were not specifically designed for arthroplasties.

Behrend et al.¹³ developed a new concept of a questionnaire to assess quality of life after total hip arthroplasty (THA) and total knee arthroplasty (TKA), whose objective is to measure the best possible outcome, “the patient’s ability to forget about the hip or knee operated” in daily life.¹⁴ The *Forgotten Joint Score* (FJS) is composed of 12 questions based on activities of daily living (ADL), with five possible answers.

This study aims to translate and culturally adapt the FJS questionnaire into Brazilian Portuguese (Br-FJS).

Methods

This study was approved by the Research Ethics Committee of the Institution in which the authors work, under the number CEP: 109449/2016.

The right to translate and culturally validate the FJS was obtained after contacting the developers of this instrument, who provided a contract to be signed; the authorization was granted after this signature.

The translation and cultural validation of the *Forgotten Joint Score* questionnaire for Brazilian Portuguese used the criteria described by Wild et al.,¹⁵ based on the concepts of the International Society for Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research, which present ten sequential stages of development and follow the principles of equivalences: semantic, idiomatic, experimental or cultural, and conceptual, according to the orientation of the creators of the FJS.

1. Preparation: the two-week period used to obtain the authorization to translate the FJS, as well as to adapt the script used for cultural validation and the collection of all the material and documents required for the study.
2. Forward translation: The 12 questions and the five possible answers from the original English FJS questionnaire were translated separately by two independent orthopedic surgeons (Table 1).
3. Reconciliation: The two translations were compared and discussed by the two orthopedic surgeons in order to reach a consensus and create a single translation. It was observed that the word “consciência” (consciousness) was used as a translation of “awareness” by one surgeon, while the other used the word “lembrar” (remember) for the same

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