

The process of translating the SWYC to Brazilian Portuguese

The translation of the English SWYC to the Brazilian Portuguese took over two years and was the result of a collaborative effort of researchers from Tufts Medical Center (TMC) and from two Brazilian public universities, the Federal Universities from Minas Gerais (UFMG) and Santa Catarina (UFSC). The Portuguese version of the SWYC is available at www.theSWYC.org. Validity and reliability studies are currently being conducted with Brazilian families, since the original measurement properties of the instrument were established on the basis of an English-speaking sample.

Cross-cultural adaptation process

The translation of the questionnaire into Brazilian Portuguese was performed according to internationally recommended procedures. Initially, the instrument was translated to Portuguese by independent qualified translators fluent in English. These translations were discussed and combined by an expert committee resulting in a single compiled version. This version was back-translated by two native speakers, unaware of the construct and the target population. These two distinct back-translations were again discussed by an expert committee and compared with the original version. The expert committee evaluated the correspondence between the terms of the original version and the back-translations, checking whether the expressions were identical, approximate or different. Adjustments were made to the Brazilian version, obtaining the corrected translated version of the SWYC-Brazil.

The corrected version of the SWYC-Brazil was pretested in two states (Santa Catarina and Minas Gerais). Twelve 12 parents, from a public follow up program for preterm infants at the Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais and from an outpatient clinic of a public hospital, were interviewed in Belo Horizonte (MG), and 18 parents were interviewed at a Basic Health Care Unit in Araranguá-SC (Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina). In the interview, the questions were read for parents and, using principles of cognitive interviewing, we took notes indicating if they understood the questions, if we needed to explain again the content of the question, and in this case, we asked the parents to suggest how to rewrite the question to make it easier to understand. Questions that raised doubts on the respondents were marked for further discussion and analysis by the expert committee. Following pretest, the expert committee met again to make the needed semantic adjustments, taking into account the views of parents and experts. A second draft of the translation was prepared and submitted again to another pretest. This version was retested in 27 parents of children from Minas Gerais and Santa Catarina, using the same procedures as previously. The results were discussed, minor adjustments were made, resulting in the final version of the Brazilian SWYC, that is being currently tested in Brazil.

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