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Title: Validity and reliability of Turkish version of St. George's respiratory questionnaire

Dr. Mehmet 7405 Polatli mpolatli@ttmail.com MD ¹, Dr. Arzu 7406 Yorgancioglu arzuyo@hotmail.com MD ², Dr. Ömer 7407 Aydemir soaydemir@hotmail.com MD ³, Dr. Nilgün Yilmaz 7408 Demirci nilgundemirci@gmail.com MD ⁴, Dr. Gamze 7409 Kirkil gamkirkil@yahoo.com MD ⁵, Dr. Sibel Atis 7411 Nayci atissibel@gmail.com MD ⁶, Dr. Nurdan 7413 Kokturk kokturk.nurdan@gmail.com MD ⁷, Dr. Atilla 7415 Uysal dratilla@yahoo.com MD ³ and Dr. Gonca 7417 Gunakan kokturk.nurdan@gmail.com ⁶. ¹ Department of Pulmonology, Adnan Menderes University School of Medicine, Aydin, Turkey ; ² Department of Pulmonology, Celal Bayar University School of Medicine, Manisa, Turkey ; ³ Department of Psychiatry, Celal Bayar University School of Medicine, Manisa, Turkey ; ⁴ Pulmonology, Ministry of Health Atatürk Chest Diseases and Chest Surgery Training and Research Hospital, Ankara, Turkey ; ⁵ Department of Pulmonology, Firat University School of Medicine, Elazig, Turkey ; ⁶ Department of Pulmonology, 6Mersin University School of Medicine, Mersin, Turkey ; ⁵ Department of Pulmonology, Gazi University School of Medicine, Ankara, Turkey ; ⁶ Pulmonology, Gazi University School of Medicine, Ankara, Turkey ; ⁶ Pulmonology, Gazi University School of Medicine, Ankara, Turkey ; ⁶ Pulmonology, Gazi University School of Medicine, Ankara, Turkey ; ⁶ Pulmonology, Gazi University School of Medicine, Ankara, Turkey ; ⁶ Pulmonology, Gazi University School of Medicine, Ankara, Turkey ; ⁶ Pulmonology, Gazi University School of Medicine, Ankara, Turkey ; ⁶ Pulmonology, Gazi University School of Medicine, Ankara, Turkey ; ⁶ Pulmonology, Gazi University Faculty of Medical Sciences, Ankara, Turkey ;

Body: The importance of the evaluation of health status in COPD is recently highlighted in many studies. In this study, we aimed to test the validity and reliability of the Turkish version of St. George Respiratory Questionnaire (SGRQ). The study was conducted in 7 centers in Turkey. Three hundred twenty one COPD patients (40-75 years-old) were included to the study. Turkish versions of breathlessness, Cough, and Sputum Scale (BCSS), mMRC (Modified Medical Research Council) dyspnea scale, St George Respiratory Questionnaire (SGRQ), COPD assessment test (CAT) and Short Form Health Survey (SF-36) were carried out to the patients. The statistical analysis of SGRQ was performed by using the coefficient of internal consistency, discriminate analysis for different stages and the correlation with the other scales. The mean age was 62.4 ± 8.9 years and the mean FEV1 was 51.9 ± 19.2% pred. The coefficient of internal consistency (Cronbach alpha) was 0.8815. The correlation between the total score measured initially and that obtained 2 weeks later was found to be highly significant (r=0.90, p<0.0001). According the results of the testing the validity of both total score and the components of SGRQ, the correlation between the total score of SGRQ and CAT was 0.782 (p<0.0001), SGRQ and SF-36 was between -0.481 ile -0.819 (p<0.0001). The total and component scores were able to discriminate different disease stages and a significant correlation was found to be with pulmonary function tests. CONCLUSION: St George Respiratory Questionnaire (SGRQ) Turkish version is a reliable and valid assessment tool for COPD patients in clinical practice.