

0043

### **Cross-cultural use of assessment in occupational therapy: Process and validation**

Naser Alotaibi

*Kuwait University, Sulaibekhat, Kuwait*

**Introduction:** no standardized upper extremity outcome measure exists in these clinics. Moreover, lack of standardized assessment tools limits the recognition of this area of practice as part of occupational therapy services in Kuwait

**OBJECTIVE.** The purpose of this study was to pilot test the Arabic version of the Disability of the Arm, Shoulder, and Hand (DASH-Arabic), a self-administered outcome measure questionnaire. The DASH-Arabic is designed for Arabic clients who suffer from upper extremity conditions.

**METHOD.** The DASH-Arabic was self-administered by forty Arabic clients. Face validity, content validity, and internal consistency were examined. Each client was then interviewed face-to-face to indicate the relevance of items to the Arabic language and culture.

**RESULTS.** Following administration of the DASH-Arabic to participants, changes of wording to several items have been made. Misunderstanding of wordings by specific participants was resolved prior to their ratings. Thus, participants' ratings were not affected. The study findings supported the validity and internal consistency of the DASH-Arabic. Following the content analysis of the clients' feedback, the recommended changes addressed issues related to clarity and understanding of DASH-Arabic, language barriers, cultural differences, and construction of items.

**CONCLUSION.** The study demonstrated the validity and internal consistency of the DASH-Arabic. However, due to modifications of several items in the DASH-Arabic, further testing of internal consistency and test-re-test reliability are warranted. Implications to occupational therapy practice and research were presented.