

Usefulness of the Activities of Daily Living Questionnaire - Spanish Version (ADLQ-SV) in assessing functional impairment in patients with dementia

Julieta Camino de la Llosa^{1,2}, Ezequiel Gleichgerrcht^{1,2}, Teresa Torralva^{1,2}, Maria Roca^{1,2}, Facundo Manes^{1,2}

¹INECO (Instituto de Neurología Cognitiva, Buenos Aires, Argentina, ²INFF (Instituto de Neurociencias de la Fundación Favaloro, Buenos Aires, Argentina

Introduction: Functional assessment is essential in patients with dementia, as it provides an invaluable tool for both diagnosis and treatment. To date, most scales of activities of daily living (ADL) have focused either on Basic or instrumental activities, providing an incomplete profile of patients' level of dependence on their caregivers. Moreover, some popular scales concentrate too strongly on the way in which physical impairment affects

ADL, decreasing sensitivity for the detection of demented patients who do not necessarily present with physical impediments. The Activities of Daily Living Questionnaire (ADLQ) assesses functioning in self-care, household care, employment and recreation, shopping and money, travel, and communication.

Objective: For this reason, the present study sought to determine the usefulness of the Spanish version of the ADLQ (ADLQ-SV) in assessing functional impairment in different types of dementia.

Methods: The ADLQ-SV, the Clinical Dementia Rating Scale (CDR), and the Functional Assessment Questionnaire (FAQ) were administered to the caregivers of patients (*n * = 40) with different types of dementia, including Alzheimer disease and frontotemporal dementia, among others.

Results: Strong internal (Cronbach's alpha = .88) and concurrent validity (significant correlations with CDR and FAQ, both *p * < .001) were observed. We discuss response trends on the ADLQ-SV and the utility of the scale in Spanish-speaking populations of patients with dementia.

Conclusion and contribution to occupational therapy: The ADLQ-SV is a useful tool capable of evaluating functional impairment across time, grouping different types of activities of daily living into domains. With a unique measure through time, health professionals can offer the patient and caregivers relevant suggestions in each stage.