

The Generic Lifestyle Assessment Questionnaire

LAQ-G

THE GENERIC LIFESTYLE ASSESSMENT QUESTIONNAIRE: AN INSTRUMENT TO MEASURE RESTRICTIONS IN THE PARTICIPATION OF CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES AND THEIR FAMILIES

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*Who am I – or I – to demand oblivion?
I must go out tomorrow as the others do
And build the falling castle;
Which has never fallen, thanks
Not to any formula, red tape or institution,
Not to any creeds or banks,
But to the human animal's endless courage.*

*From "Autumn Journal" by Louis MacNeice
London, 1938*

PREFACE AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thank you for showing an interest in the generic Lifestyle Assessment Questionnaire LAQ-G, which is a parent/carer completed questionnaire measuring, at a given point in time, the restrictions in participation of children with disabilities and their families.

It was developed for use with special needs registers in the UK, and particularly seeks to capture the *impact* of childhood disability, and its consequences in terms of *participation* for child and family. Central to this work is our belief that parents are critical informants in assessing such impact.

The LAQ-G is a 45-item questionnaire, organised into six health domains through the application of multi-dimensional scaling. Domains are named to reflect elements of the WHO's International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health.

We appreciate your interest and would welcome any feedback. If you decide to use the LAQ-G, we would be very interested to know how it will be applied. Before using the LAQ-G, please pay particular attention to the discussion on its uses and limitations in Chapter 5. We are always interested to hear how the LAQ-G performs in other settings, and we would appreciate it if you could share your experience with us.

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Dr Christine Jessen, Northumberland Care Trust, 2005.

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