

Title: A collaborative approach to developing an adapted version of a self-reported outcome measure of musculoskeletal health for people with a learning disability.

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We would like to be considered for submitting a poster please.



Title: A collaborative approach to developing an adapted version of a self-reported outcome measure of musculoskeletal health for people with a learning disability.

Abstract

Background: This project was born through sharing perspectives and passions from speech and language therapy and physiotherapy.

Aims: A shared wish to enable those with a learning disability to engage meaningfully in giving their views about how successful their treatment for joint, bone and muscle symptoms is under our care.

What will we do? We will adapt the Musculoskeletal Health Questionnaire (MSK-HQ) to be suitable for use by/with those with a learning disability. We selected this self-reported outcome measure as it captures changes in a person's perception of how well they understand their condition as well as alterations in their physical capabilities.

So far and next steps:

- We became aware that those with a learning disability had not been included in developing the MSK-HQ and approached the research team who designed it.
- We are creating a protocol outlining how we will draw on the expertise of people with a learning disability, their carers and clinicians via workshops to adapt the MSK-HQ.
- Areas of focus:
 - Reducing the reading age required to understand the questionnaire as measured by the Flesch Score whilst retaining essential content;
 - Speed of use;
 - Developing advice, to be included with the questionnaire, on strategies that support the understanding of those with a learning disability. These will be based on the experience of speech and language therapists and those with a learning disability;
 - Ensuring validity and reliability through comparison to already validated outcome measures.
- Dr Jonathon Hill (Keele University) is advising us in relation to the statistical content.
- We will involve speech and language therapy and physiotherapy students from local universities in collating information from the stakeholders.

End product

- A validated and practical adapted questionnaire suited to the proposed client group.
- Fuller inclusion of those with a learning disability in our services.