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PSYCHOMETRIC PROPERTIES OF A NEW INDIVIDUALISED MEASURE OF QUALITY OF LIFE (QOL) FOR TEENAGERS WITH DIABETES MELLITUS: THE ADDQOL-TEEN.

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This study evaluated the psychometric properties of a new individualised, patientcentred questionnaire, the ADDQoL-Teen, measuring perceived impact of diabetes mellitus on QoL of teenagers. Respondents rate personally applicable life domains for impact of their diabetes and importance to their QoL. ADDQoL-Teen design was based on the ADDQoL (for adults with diabetes). Young people, [mean age 16.4 (sd 2.4) years, N = 152, attending diabetes clinics at 6 UK hospitals, completed the questionnaire that included 30 specific domain items and 2 overview items. Five domains were found to detract from the reliability and factor structure of the measure and were analysed separately. The 25-domain ADDQoL-Teen had high internal consistency reliability [Cronbach's alpha coefficient = 0.91, (N = 133)] and could be summed into an overall Average Weighted Impact score. There were 2 subscales: a 10-item Impact-Self subscale (measuring impact of diabetes and its treatment on the individual) and a 15-item Impact-Other subscale (measuring impact on interactions with others and the external world). Both subscales had good internal consistency reliability, [Cronbach's alpha coefficients of 0.82 (N = 142) and 0.88 (N = 138) respectively]. Domains reported as most severely (and negatively) impacted by diabetes were [mean weighted impact (sd)]: lie in bed [-3.68 (3.41)], interrupting activities [-3.5 (3.23)] and worry about the future [-3.45 (3.28)], (maximum range -9 to +9). The majority (62%) felt that having diabetes had a negative impact on QoL, but 36% considered it had no impact on QoL. In conclusion, the ADDQoL-Teen is a new measure of perceived impact of diabetes and its treatment on QoL of teenagers. It will help health professionals consider QoL as well as medical outcomes when caring for young people with diabetes. It may be used in clinical trials and for routine clinical monitoring.