

Patient-Reported Outcomes (PROs) in HIV infection: Points to consider and challenges

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PROs assess symptoms, health behaviors, and life circumstances associated with HIV and comorbidities resulting from the disease and its treatment. They focus on aspects of health and treatment affecting the patient's quality of life that can only be elicited through specific questions, such as psychological concepts or non-specific symptoms.

The goal is to reach consensus on the use of PROMs (Patient-Reported Outcome Measures) in people living with HIV (PLHIV).

Methodology



Delphi Survey Sample



80 health professionals

40 PLHIV

17,5% of participant PLHIV were at risk of social exclusion.

Results

Delphi mean agreement rate for each group

Guiding principles



The patient should be the center of attention.

Patient's perception is essential to identify needs.



Questionnaires are useful, individually and/or collectively.

PROMs provide valuable information for decision making.

Recommendations



Use questionnaires with proven validity.

Use multidimensional PROMs at diagnosis and major changes.



Use specific PROMs for follow-up.

Identify interferences in the healthcare professional-patient relationship.



Individualize health care with PROMs.

Use multidimensional PROs to choose consultation model for each patient.



Complete PROMs in quiet and confidential environment.

Review completed PROMs with the patient during the consultation.



Educate patients on PROMs completion.

Digital technology can be of help, despite limitations.

The responses showed great polarization between PLHIV and health professionals. This led to conclude that a rapprochement would not be achieved in a second Delphi-round.

Conclusions

PROMs are useful in clinical practice for:

...but need:

Adherence
Strengthening relationships
Expression of preferences
Audit quality

Professional training
Easy PROMs
Patient learning
Support/resources