

# **Developing the validated Foot-care abilities questionnaire (F-CAQ), using quality improvement outcomes.**

**Tina Loxley<sup>1</sup>**

1 Barwon Health, P.O.Box 281, Geelong, Victoria, tinal@barwonhealth.org.au

## **Background**

A validated instrument for measuring client's perceived problems with their foot-care abilities was required to measure outcomes of the Meet Your Feet (MYF) program. A literature search revealed no instrument was available. A questionnaire was developed and tested for face, content validity and internal consistency. Data from 116 pre/post course surveys regarding barriers to self-management underpinned the development of the foot-care abilities questionnaire (F-CAQ).

## **Method**

Five academics, six clients, one receptionist and two lay people gave feedback about face validity, appropriateness to the study purpose, content, clarity of wording, literacy and readability criteria, lay out and style.

Nine experts were recruited to judge the content validity. These included five podiatrists, one physiotherapist, two occupational therapists and one academic. Each expert was asked to review the relevance of each item clearly defined in conceptual framework.

Face and content validity was established using a content validity index table. Each item was rated for relevance. Cronbach's alpha was used to measure internal consistency. Pearson correlation coefficients were used to examine the test-retest reliability of the 17 revised items. Complete data was available for 20 participants, used in reliability analyses.

## **Results**

The Cronbach's alpha score of .903 indicated a high degree of internal consistency. The Pearson correlation score of .855 indicated good stability of measurement over time. A valid 17 item questionnaire, the F-CAQ is now used pre/ post MYF.

## **Discussion**

The F-CAQ has been proven to have face, content, internal consistency and test re-test reliability from a small sample group. Once this validated and reliability development process is complete, use of this in the MYF Program will allow publication of outcomes from the program. Positive testing outcomes will allow the use of the validated and reliable F-CAQ to test outcomes from other population groups or in one to one podiatry interventions.