

Development of the Content and Quality in Briefs Instrument (CQB-I)

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Objective: The Content and quality of Briefs Instrument (CQB-I) was designed to develop a valid and reliable audit instrument to examine the content and quality of information in documents (briefs) created in the early stages of designing healthcare environments.

Background: The importance of effective briefing has been emphasised in many research studies during the past two decades. However, there is no developed instrument for auditing the content and quality of the documents, which makes this paper interesting.

Methods: The study had a methodological and developmental design based on an established methodology for instrument development and validation. The development process consisted of three main phases: item generation and scale construction, assessment of face and content validity, and finally, testing of the reliability. To obtain face and content validity, expert panels reviewed the CQB-I. Content validity was assessed by using the Content Validity Index (I-CVI=item level, S-CVI=scale level). The reliability was tested by test-retest and inter-rater reliability.

Results: CQB-I was found to have good content validity (I-CVI =0.78 – 1.0 and S-CVI=0.98). Inter-rater reliability was acceptable (Spearman's correlation = 0.62) and the stability was considered high for both raters (83% respectively 88%).

Conclusions: The instrument can be used as a guide for the work process in the design team and contribute to the ongoing development of making the design process more user-oriented with the ultimate goal of healthcare environments designed for a patient-centered care.