Research Paper:



Validity and Reliability of the Short Form Health Survey Questionnaire (SF-36) for Use in Iranian Patients With Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)

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ABSTRACT

Background and Aim: The assessment of Quality of Life (QoL) as a measurement of Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) outcome can play a key role in identifying the adverse effects of TBI. There is no study on the evaluation of psychometric properties of the Persian version of Short Form Health Survey Questionnaire (SF-36) in the TBI patient population. Therefore, the present study aimed to validate and test the reliability of the Persian version of the SF-36 in patients with TBI.

Methods and Materials/Patients: In the present cross-sectional study, 185 patients with TBI were selected by non-probability and consecutive sampling. First, the construct validity of the Persian version of the SF-36 questionnaire was evaluated using the Confirmatory Factor Analysis (CFA) in AMOS-22, and then the internal consistency reliability and item-total score correlation of each subscale were assessed by SPSS V. 22.

Results: Results of CFA indicated that the dimensionality of SF-29 questionnaire with eight-factor structure among the Iranian TBI patients had construct validity (GFI=0.825,CFI=0.963, NFI=0.919, TLI=0.957, RMSEA=0.06) by eliminating 6 items and freeing some of the covariance errors between items, but the two-factor dimensionality (physical and psychological components of QoL) of this questionnaire was not approved. Internal consistency of the eight-factor form of SF-29 subscales was acceptable to excellent (= α 0.70 to 0.99). Correlation analysis of item-total score for determining the construct validity of SF-29 indicated that except for 2 items, all items of the questionnaire had a positive and strong correlation with their subscales (r=0.40 to 0.99, P<0.0001).

Conclusion: Persian version of SF-29 with an eight-factor construct had good validity and reliability and could be used to measure health-related QoL in Iranian patients with TBI.

* Corresponding Author: Zahra Khaksari, MA. Address: Department of Psychology, Educational Sciences and Psychology, Payame Noor University, Tehran, Iran Tel: +98 (76) 2283050 E-mail: zahra.khaksari@pnu.ac.ir Highlights

- There is no study on the evaluation of psychometric properties of the Persian version of SF-36.
- The deleting 6 items due to obtaining the weak factor loading could improve values of fit indices in SF-29.

• The dimensionality of SF-29 questionnaire with eight-factor structure among the Iranian TBI patients had construct validity.

- The two-factor dimensionality (physical and psychological components of SF-36 & SF-29) was not approved.
- Internal consistency of the eight-factor form of SF-29 subscales was acceptable to excellent.

Plain Language Summary

The assessment of Quality of Life (QoL) as a measurement of Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) outcome can play a key role in identifying the adverse effects of TBI and the impact of different treatments on the progress of patient's recovery. Therefore, the present study aimed to validate and test the reliability of the Persian version of the Short Form Health Survey Questionnaire (SF-36) in patients with TBI. In the present cross-sectional study, 185 patients with TBI were selected by non-probability and consecutive sampling. First, the construct validity of the Persian version of the SF-36 questionnaire was evaluated, then the internal consistency reliability and item-total correlation of each subscale were assessed. Results indicated that the dimensionality of SF-29 questionnaire with eight-factor structure among the Iranian TBI patients had construct validity, but the two-factor dimensionality (physical and psychological components of QoL) of this questionnaire was not approved. Internal consistency of the eight-factor form of SF-29 subscales was acceptable to excellent (α =0.70 to 0.99). Correlation analysis of item-total score for determining the construct validity of SF-29 indicated that except for 2 items, all items of the questionnaire had a positive and strong correlation with their subscales. The Persian version of SF-29 with an eight-factor construct had good validity and reliability and could be used to measure health-related QoL in Iranian patients with TBI.

1. Introduction

raumatic Brain Injury (TBI) is a major cause of mortality and disability, especially among young people and those under the age of 45 [1, 2]. Approximately 69 million people worldwide suffer from traumatic brain injury

every year. From 100,000 people, 1299 in the USA and 1012 in Europe suffer from TBI [3]. With regards to the statistics, Iran is one of the leading countries in terms of the number of the annual accidents and injuries, which unfortunately occur mostly in the head and neck areas with a predilection for brain injuries. Nationwide, traumatic brain injury is the second most common cause of mortality in injured patients [4]. TBI may occur in accidents due to motor vehicles, fall from a height, attacks, and so on. Manifestations of this injury can range from severe fatigue to loss of consciousness and depend on the severity of TBI [5].

A great number of patients with moderate and severe TBI suffer from long-term physical, cognitive, emotional,

social and occupational consequences that adversely affect their performance and quality of life [6]. The assessment of the quality of life of people with TBI plays a significant role in the creation of suitable strategies for each person that allows us to guide effective and rehabilitative therapies [7].

The Short Form Health Survey Questionnaire (SF-36) is an accepted reporting tool to assess the health-related quality of life in people with TBI [8-10]. In a meta-analysis study on published research on TBI from 1991 to 2013, Polinder et al (2015) stated that SF-36 was the most comprehensive tool for assessing the quality of life of patients with TBI [11]. For years, the SF-36 has been a common questionnaire to assess the Health-Related Quality of Life (HRQoL) among different populations and has been translated into Persian, and its psychometric properties have been evaluated in Iran. Also, it has been utilized in studies on TBI in Iran; however, there is no study on the evaluation of psychometric properties of the Persian version of SF-36 in the TBI patient population [12-15]. The literature review indicates that English versions of SF-36 are previously examined by Findler et al. and MacKenzie et al. in TBI patients and their psychometric properties are confirmed, while based on studies in Iran, psychometric properties of the Persian version of SF-36 has been examined only in groups such as healthy populations, thalassemia major, elderly and MS patients [8, 13, 16-21]. There is a research gap to investigate the psychometric properties of the Persian version of SF-36 in Iranian TBI patients.

The use of quality of life measures can provide information on the general health status of TBI patients for experts, otherwise, they may not be detectable. In this regard, SF-36 can have growing importance to evaluate disease progression, treatment and care management of patients with TBI. Therefore, the present study aimed to validate the SF-36 for use in Iranian patients with TBI.

2. Methods and Materials/Patients

This study was conducted in Emergency and Neurosurgery Departments of Poursina Hospital of Rasht (North of Iran). In a cross-sectional study, a total of 185 patients with TBI were selected before discharge from the hospital by a census and consecutive sampling method to examine the internal consistency of SF-36 and construct validity and its two-factor construct.

Inclusion and exclusion criteria

Inclusion criteria for all patients, who were diagnosed with mild to moderate TBI based on specialist's diagnosis, were as follows: Age of 16 and older; and Glasgow Coma Scale (GCS) of 8 and higher. Exclusion criteria included clinical or radiologic findings indicating spinal cord injury; any neurological disease before the TBI, or non-traumatic brain injury (such as brain tumors, stroke, arterial aneurysm and other cerebrovascular events); vegetative state or severe consciousness deficit and being unable to respond to tests; presence of movement or balance disorders, arthritis, fracture of knee and joints before TBI; and refusal to give consent to enter the study for any reason.

Patients' evaluation

Referral to the emergency and neurosurgery departments of the hospital was performed (Everyday except for the official holidays) by two trained senior nursing experts for daily sampling (9.00 AM to 1.00 PM). Patients eligible for inclusion in this study were identified by neurosurgical diagnosis and review of their hospital records within 72 hours after their arrival at the hospital. The initial evaluation was then performed on them by SF-36. At the beginning of the evaluation of patients with TBI, the reasons for conducting the research and the method were explained for participants or their attendants and they were assured that their information would be kept confidential.

It was also reminded that their refusal to participate in the study would not have any impact on their treatment process. All eligible patients were evaluated before discharge. Demographic data were collected and quality of life assessment was performed after entering patients with obtained informed consent from either the patients or the families. In the next step, demographic data and some clinical information (such as the exact duration of hospital stay), results of neurosurgical examinations and neuroimaging findings (CT scan) were extracted from their hospital records until the evaluation day.

Research tool

Short Form Health Survey Questionnaire (SF-36): The questionnaire was designed by Ware et al. to assess the quality of life. It has 36 questions with two general performance measures (see appendix), namely the Physical Component Summary (PCS), which examines the physical dimension of health, and the Mental Component Summary (MCS) which also measures the psychosocial aspect of health [15, 22]. It should be noted that the second item of this questionnaire is not calculated in any of the subscales. Scale scores range from 0 to 100, with 100 indicating the most favorable health status.

The aggregated PCS and MCS scores are standardized to have a mean of 50 and a standard deviation of 10 [22]. The reliability and validity of this questionnaire were evaluated by Asghari Moghaddam and Faghehi in two studies on Shahed University students [14]. In the first study, 404 male and female students responded to the questionnaire. In order to investigate test-retest coefficients of the SF-36 subscales, the questionnaire was again implemented on 120 participants (60 girls and 60 boys) from the same participants after a week.

The results indicated that there were desirable internal consistency and reliability of all subscales of the questionnaire (test-retest coefficients of subscales ranged from 0.43 to 0.79 and Cronbach's alpha coefficients of subscales ranged from 0.70-0.85). In the second study, the validity of the Health Questionnaire was assessed by implementing in two groups, healthy ones



(n=48) and patients (n=81). Scores of both healthy and patient groups were compared on all subscales of the questionnaire. The results indicated statistically significant differences in all subscales of the questionnaire in both groups. The findings of the two studies indicated an acceptable validity and reliability of the SF-36 questionnaire in an Iranian adult sample [14].

Data analysis

The Confirmatory Factor Analysis (CFA) technique was used with a maximum likelihood to determine the presence of 8 factors and then two general domains in order to determine the construct validity of the above mentioned cases. Fit indices of eight-factor and twofactor models were evaluated in 185 samples and their results were compared using AMOS-22. The Cronbach's alpha coefficients were used to obtain the internal consistency reliability of SF-36 domains and components. The item-total correlation coefficients were calculated for each subscale of SF-36 to evaluate the construct validity. These statistical analyses were performed by a significance level of less than P<0.05 using the SPSS software V. 22.

3.Results

Table 1 presents the findings of the demographic and contextual variables of patients with TBI (n=185). The mean age of patients was 37.50±17.42 years and ranged from 15 to 85 years. To obtain a more appropriate model in the Iranian patients with TBI, both eight-domain and two-component/factor models plus modification indices were used based on the AMOS output (Table 2). The output of CFA indicated that freeing a number of covariance errors between items and deleting 6 items due to



Figure 1. Factor loadings and measurement error of SF-29 questionnaire items in the eight-factor model



PF: Physical Function; RP: Role Physical; BP: Bodily Pain; GH: General Health; VT: Vitality; SF: Social Function; RE: Role Emotional; MH: Mental Health



Characteristic	CS	No. (%)
Conder	Male	171(92.4)
Gender	Female	14(7.6)
	Single	66(35.7)
Marital status	Married	118(63.8)
	Not reported	1(0.5)
	Village	101(54.6)
Residence	City	81(43.8)
	Not reported	3(1.6)
	Professional	1(0.5)
	Office	20(10.8)
	Technical	33(17.8)
Occupational status	Skilled worker	67(36.2)
	Simple worker	40(21.6)
	Unemployed	19(10.3)
	Not reported	5(2.7)
	Cars	27(14.6)
	Motorcycle	91(49.2)
	Pedestrian	15(8.1)
	Fall	16(8.6)
TBI cause	Violence	5(2.7)
	Clash of objects	11(5.9)
	Drop back	18(9.7)
	Riding bike	1(0.5)
	Not reported	1(0.5)
	No	118(63.8)
	Simple (linear)	47(25.4)
Chull fee sture	Depressed	16(8.6)
Skull fracture	Basilar	2(1.1)
	Mixed	1(0.5)
	Indeterminate	1(0.5)
	No	20(10.8)
	Left	59(31.9)
Hemispheric brain injury	Right	78(42.2)
	Bilateral	25(13.5)
	Indeterminate	3(1.6)

Table 1. Demographic and clinical characteristics of patients with traumatic brain injury (n=185)

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Fit Indices	Observed Values in the Original 8-factor Model With 36 Items	Observed Values in the Improved 8-factor Model With 29 Items	Observed Values in the Original 2-factor Model With 36 Items	Observed Values in the Improved 2-factor Model With 29 Items
(x ²)	1909.490	663.547	3689.577	1201.562
(df)	551	382	560	320
(P-Value)	0.0001	0.0001	0.0001	0.0001
(χ²/df)	3.465	1.760	6.589	2.818
Goodness of Fit Index (GFI)	0.634	0.825	0.448	0.777
Adjusted Goodness of Fit Index (AGFI)	0.582	0.779	0.379	0.716
Normed Fit Index (NFI)	0.775	0.919	0.564	0.876
Tucker-Lewis Index (TLI)	0.814	0.957	0.578	0.900
Comparative Fit Index (CFI)	0.828	0.963	0.603	0.916
Akaike Information Criterion (AIC)	2067.490	784.974	3829.577	1073.841
Root Mean Square Error of Approximation (RMSEA)	0.11	0.06	0.17	0.09
	Fit Indices (x²) (df) (P-Value) (Y²/df) Goodness of Fit Index (GFI) Adjusted Goodness of Fit Index (AGFI) Adjusted Goodness of Fit Index (AGFI) Comparative Fit Index (NFI) Akaike Information Criterion (AIC) Root Mean Square Error of Approximation	Fit IndicesObserved Values skicht Scheinen skicht Scheinen schein Values(x²)1909.490(df)551(f²)0.0001(P-Value)0.0001(x²/df)3.465(Adjusted Goodness of Fit Index (AFI)0.582Adjusted Fit Index (NFI)0.755(Ataken Index (NFI)0.814Akake Information Criterion (AIC)2067.490Roth Schein Schlein Schein Schein Schein Schein Schlein Schein Schlein Schein Schein Schlein Schlein Schein Schlein Schlei	Fit hoticesObserved Yalues shack Dyserved Yalues shack Dyserved Yalues shack Dyserved YaluesObserved Yalues shack Dyserved Yalues shack Dyserved Yalues(1)(2)(1)(1)(1)(1)(1)(2)(1)(1)(1)(1)(1)(2)(1)(1)(1)(1)(1)(2)(1)(1)	Harber and state and

Table 2. Eight- and two-factor model fit indices of Short Form Health Survey Questionnaire

obtaining the weak factor loading (36, 31, 30, 29, 28 and 26) could improve the values of fit indices (see Figure 1).

Due to modification indices (GFI =0.825, CFI =0.963, NFI =0.919, TLI=0.957, RMSEA =0.06) and the lack of inclusion of item 2 in subscale calculations, the eight-factor model with 29 items and freeing 14 covariance errors between items "3 and 4", "11 and 12", "10 and 11", "9 and 10", "7 and 8", "8 and 9", "4 and 8", "6 and 10", "7 and 11", "6 and 9", "7 and 8", "8 and 10", "33 and 35" and "33 and 34" were preferred to the two-factor model with 29 items and freeing 27 covariance errors

between items "3 and 9", "3 and 4", "4 and 8", "5 and 36", "1 and 7", "7 and 12", "7 and 11", "9 and 10", "11 and 12", "1 and 12", "13 and 14", "14 and 16", "21 and 22", "6 and 36", "1 and 35", "12 and 22", "9 and 16", "6 and 16", "4 and 10", "5 and 10", "6 and 9", "5 and 9", "7 and 9", "10 and 11", "24 and 25", "26 and 30" and "28 and 31".

The results indicated that dimensionality of eight-factor SF-29 questionnaire among the Iranian TBI patients compared to the two-factor model has more favorable fit indices and higher construct validity (Table 2). The el-

Table 3. Descriptive indices and internal consistency reliability coefficients for subscales of SF-29 questionnaire (n=185)

Subscales	Mean±SD	Cronbach's Alpha
PF	95.49±35.12	0.98
RP	45.08±14.67	0.98
BP	12.07±5.03	0.83
GH	20.95±4.08	0.86
VT	12.8±5.11	0.70
SF	12.73±3.16	0.90
RE	25.71±17.23	0.99
МН	5.56±4.92	0.91
PCS	31.84±5.67	0.91
MCS	23.61±6.63	0.87

PF: Physical Function; RP: Role Physical; BP: Bodily Pain; GH: General Health; VT: Vitality; SF: Social Function; RE: Role Emotional; MH: Mental Health; PCS: Physical Component Summary, MCS: Mental Component Summary.



Figure 2. Factor loadings and measurement error of SF-29 questionnaire items in a two-factor model



PCS: Physical Component Summary, MCS: Mental Component Summary

lipses contain latent variables or factors, and the rectangles are SF-29 items. The two-way arrows indicate the correlation between factors, and the one-way arrows from ellipses to squares indicate the place of items on factor loading. The written values on these arrows indicate the correlation coefficient of items with each factor, and small arrows from circles to squares represent the residual variance (error) that cannot be explained by the factor. The error values are obtained by subtracting the explained variances from number 1.

Table 3 presents descriptive indices and internal consistency reliability coefficients for the eight subscales of the SF-29 questionnaire. Based on Table 3, Cronbach's alpha coefficients which are used to obtain the internal consistency reliability of the questionnaire indicate the reliability of all subscales of SF-29 in the range of 0.70 to 0.99 which is equal to or greater than the recommended value for acceptance of internal consistency [23]. Table 4 presents the item-total score correlation coefficients of SF-29 subscales.

Table 4 presents that the results of all correlations between each item with its total subscale score are significant in all cases (P<0.0001). In other words, each item has a significant correlation with the sub-scale; hence, each of eight subscales of the SF-29 questionnaire measures a separate dimension of quality of life. All correlation coefficients for each item and subscale, except for items 32 and 34, exceed the recommended minimum level of >0.40 [24] indicating the construct validity of SF-29. In this regard, the lowest correlation coefficient is 0.25 (GH34) and the highest correlation coefficient is 0.99 (RP14, RE17, RE18, RE19).

4. Discussion

The present study aimed to validate and test the reliability of SF-36 for using in Iranian patients with TBI.



Table 4. Correlation of item-total score of subscale for eight-factor version of SF-29 (n=185)

Subscales	Items	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	3	0.89	0.52	0.45	0.02	0.09	0.27	0.01	0.01
	4	0.93	0.59	0.46	0.02	0.13	0.24	0.05	0.06
	5	0.95	0.56	0.45	0.03	0.15	0.29	0.05	0.11
	6	0.96	0.57	0.44	0.005	0.10	0.29	0.03	0.08
DE	7	0.92	0.52	0.43	0.03	0.16	0.25	0.06	0.12
PF	8	0.95	0.54	0.43	0.05	0.09	0.27	0.03	0.09
	9	0.94	0.53	0.40	0.04	0.05	0.30	0.01	0.07
	10	0.95	0.58	0.41	0.03	0.08	0.32	0.03	0.08
	11	0.91	0.53	0.40	0.03	0.16	0.27	0.06	0.13
	12	0.85	0.49	0.43	0.06	0.18	0.29	0.02	0.06
	13	0.57	0.97	0.33	0.01	0.42	0.20	0.16	0.04
PD	14	0.57	0.99	0.32	0.02	0.45	0.19	0.16	0.04
NP.	15	0.55	0.95	0.34	0.03	0.46	0.19	0.16	0.05
	16	0.58	0.97	0.33	0.001	0.47	0.20	0.17	0.05
PD	21	0.34	0.27	0.92	0.01	0.11	0.15	0.01	0.008
DF	22	0.51	0.35	0.93	0.04	0.12	0.20	0.06	0.06
	1	0.45	0.25	0.29	0.40	0.10	0.32	0.06	0.12
СH	33	0.18	0.19	0.02	0.41	0.33	0.22	0.22	0.17
GI	34	0.02	0.05	0.03	0.25	0.31	0.21	0.10	0.08
	35	0.22	0.15	0.28	0.51	0.25	0.11	0.20	0.05
VТ	23	0.32	0.22	0.18	0.11	0.18	0.69	0.08	0.01
VI	27	0.38	0.25	0.23	0.04	0.17	0.77	0.05	0.001
CE	20	0.43	0.35	0.30	0.03	0.29	0.28	0.13	0.68
Эг	32	0.46	0.40	0.35	0.05	0.17	0.29	0.15	0.28
	17	0.14	0.46	0.12	0.09	0.99	0.05	0.39	0.18
RE	18	0.13	0.46	0.14	0.10	0.99	0.05	0.41	0.17
	19	0.13	0.46	0.12	0.10	0.99	0.05	0.41	0.18
МН	24	0.01	0.13	0.08	0.13	0.38	0.09	0.96	0.01
	25	0.06	0.19	0.009	0.16	0.40	0.04	0.95	0.04

Note: PF: Physical Function; RP: Role Physical; BP: Bodily Pain; GH: General Health; VT: Vitality; SF: Social Function; RE: Role Emotional; MH: Mental Health

Results of the CFA for investigating a 8-factor construct of the SF-36 questionnaire and measuring values of fit indices of model and comparing its results with a twofactor construct of questionnaire indicated that values of fit indices could be improved by eliminating 6 items (36, 31, 30, 29, 28, and 26) and freeing some of the covariance errors between items (Figure 2). The results indicated that the dimensionality of the questionnaire with 29 items and an eight-factor construct had good construct validity, but the dimensionality of the two-factor construct of this tool was not approved in this group.

However, two GFI and AGFI fit indices were lower than the acceptable extent (i.e. 0.90). The reason for the weakness of these two indices is the high complexity of the model (eight factors, 29 items, and thus a high degree of freedom) and also the scant sample size [25]. Therefore, for future researches, it is recommended to use a larger TBI sample to confirm the underlying factors of SF-36.

Consistent with the present study, findings of research by Guilfoyle et al. also confirmed eight dimensions of SF-36 as criteria for evaluation of HRQoL in patients with TBI, but they indicated that PCS and MCS dimensions were not valid in this regard [9].

Yang et al. also confirmed the eight-factor construct of SF-36 and recommended its use for TBI patients and for varied racial specimens by providing model fit indices for 654 elderly patients with TBI with a mean age of 72 years (white people: 87%; black people: 13%) [10].

Similar results have been reported for the dimensionality of SF-36 in validation studies under other neurological conditions. Hobart et al. studied a group of patients, who had stroke 11 months ago, and supported an eightfactor construct of this SF-36, but they also found that factor loadings of a two-factor construct were not consistent with to views of first designers of SF-36 [26]. In the investigation of SF-36 scaling on patients with Parkinson's disease, Hagell et al. due to item scaling of SF-36 supported 8 scales and their reliability, but they did not consider two summarized indices of SF-36 as valid factors of physical and mental health [27].

In the present study, the findings of Cronbach's alpha coefficients for determining internal consistency reliability of all subscales of SF-29 were equal to or greater than 0.70. The highest obtained alpha equal to 0.99 belonged to the RE subscale. It can be thus concluded that SF-29 subscales have great homogeneity and consistency and evaluate a concept. Previous studies examined psychometric properties of SF-36 in patients with TBI and achieved similar results. For instance, Findler et al. evaluated the reliability of the American version of the SF-36 questionnaire in TBI patients (n=326) and reported Cronbach's alpha coefficient of subscales equal to 0.83 to 0.91 for patients with mild TBI and 0.79 to 0.92 for patients with moderate to severe TBI [8].

Yang et al. evaluated 551 patients with TBI and found that internal consistency reliability of SF-36 ranged from 0.81 to 0.95 for patients for all subscales [10]. Other studies in similar populations reported Cronbach's alpha coefficients ranging from 0.76 to 0.95 [9, 16, 28]. In Iranian research samples, there is no study containing samples homogeneous with the present study on psychometric properties of SF-36, but Jafari et al. evaluated psychometric properties of this questionnaire in 200 patients with thalassemia major and found that the internal consistency reliability of all subscales except for Role Emotional (α = 0.65) that was 0.70 or higher [18].

Results of the present study on item-subscale correlation indicated that all items of SF-29 except for 32 and 34 items had a strong and positive correlation ranging from 0.40 and 0.99 with their subscales, and the value was above the minimum desired level of \leq 0.40 [29]; and 19 items of the questionnaire with values of higher than 0.91 were related to their respective subscales. In other words, SF-29 had good internal consistency and construct validity. Guilfoyle et al. reported the correlation of all items except for 6 items with subscales of SF-36 in the range of 0.53 to 0.86 [9].

In the present study, respondents to SF-36 had different intensities and symptoms of TBI. This factor affects the distribution of responses. Six items of the original SF-36 were excluded in the present study. It clarifies that tools for the general population cannot be simply implemented in a clinical sample. In the future, it is necessary to evaluate the quality of life of patients and the testretest reliability of SF-36 after removing confounding demographic factors. Since adverse outcomes of TBI on quality of life cannot be obtained only by SF-36 scores, using this test alone is not recommended. Therefore, using the improved 8-factor form (SF-29) is suggested to measure health-related quality of life in Iranian patients with TBI.

5. Conclusion

In general, the results indicated that SF-29 had satisfactory psychometric properties among patients with TBI and could be used as a tool for therapists and rehabilitation specialists in research and therapeutic interventions to measure and monitor the quality of life of Iranian patients with TBI.

Ethical Considerations

Compliance with ethical guidelines

The study was approved by the Deputy for Research & Technology, Guilan University of Medical Sciences, (P-3-132-4618). In this study, no intervention in medical treatment was performed. All questioners were anonymous. Participants were assured about the confidentiality of their information, the voluntariness of participation in, and withdrawal from the study. The present study was approved by the Ethics Committee of PourSina Hospital of Rasht (No: 6930459717). Informed consent was obtained from all of the participants.

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Authors contributions

All authors contributed in designing, running, and writing all parts of the research.

Conflict of interest

The authors declared no conflict of interest.

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Appendix

Appendix: Persian version of the SF-36 questionnaire adapted for TBI patients

سوالات زیر به منظور بررسی نظر شما در مورد وضعیت تان طراحی شده است. لطفا هر سوال را با ضربدر زدن(×)پاسخ دهید.

			چگونه می بینید؟	۱-به طور کلی وضعیت سلامت خود را
] ضعيف	_ متوسط	🗌 خوب	🗌 خيلي خوب] عالى
		ہی می کنید؟	حاضر با مقایسه با سال قبل چگونه ارزیا	** ۲- میزان سلامتی خود را در حال
🗌 مثل سال قبل هستم	سال قبل هستم] تا حدی بهتر از	يار بهتر هستم] از سال قبل بس
ں قبل هستم	در حال حاضر بسیار بدتر از ساا	بدتر از سال قبل هستم	_ در حال حاضر تا حدی	

للی دارید؟ اگر دارید	تها محدودیت یا مشک	، آیا در انجام این فعالیہ	سوالاتی که در زیر می آید دربارهی فعا لیتهایی است که شما به طور عادی در طول روز انجام می دهید چقدر است؟(لطفا یک مورد را علامت بزنید):
اصلا مشکل ندارم	کمی مشکل دارم	مشکل دارم	
			۳-در فعالیتهای شدید مثل دویدن، بلند کردن اجسام سنگین، شرکت کردن در ورزش های سنگین
			۴- درفعالیتهای متوسط مثل جا به جا کردن میز، کشیدن جارو برقی و…
			۵- در حمل کردن خرید روزانه
			۶- در بالا رفتن از چند طبقه
			۷- در بالا رفتن از یک طبقه
			۸- خم شدن، دولا شدن، زانو زدن
			۹- پیادہ روی بیش از یک کیلومتر
			۱۰- پیاده روی به فاصله چند صد متر
			۱۱- پیاده روی به فاصله یک صد متر
			۱۲–در استحمام یا پوشیدن لباسهای خود

خير	بلى		در طی چهارهفته گذشته آیا در کار یا تنظیم فعا لیت روزانه خود مشکلات زیر را به خاطر مشکل جسمی داشته اید؟							
				۱۳- مجبور شده اید که از زمان لازم برای انجام کار یا فعالیت های دیگر کم کنید؟						
					گذاشته اید؟	خواستيد وقت ا	له مي	۱۴- کمتر از آنچه ک		
				ايد؟	شکل داشته	فعاليت خاص من	ر يا ف	۱۵- در انجام یک نوع کا		
				ده اید؟	ری انجام داد	و مشكل بيشتر	ختى	۱- کار عادی خود را با س	۶	
خير	بلى		وزانه و انجام کارها با	در طی چهار هفته گذشته به علت مسائل روانی مثل اضطراب و یا افسردگی در انجام امور معمولی روزانه و انجام کارها با مشکلات زیر روبه رو بوده اید؟						
				۱۷- مجبور شده اید که از زمان لازم برای انجام کار یا فعالیت های دیگرکم کنید؟						
				۱۸- کمتر از آنچه که میخواستید وقت گذاشته اید؟						
				۱۹- در انجام کارهای روزمره از دقت معمول برخوردار نبوده اید؟						
افراد اختلال ايجاد	۲۰- درطی چهار هفته گذشته وضعیت سلامت جسمی و روانی شما تا چه اندازه در روابط اجتماعی معمول شما در رابطه با خانواده، دوستان، همسایگان و یا سایر افراد اختلال ایجاد کرده است؟									
ھيچ			فوق العاده زیاد] فوق العاده زياد				
								داردرد بدنی داشته اید؟	، چه مق	۱۲- در طی چهار هفته گذشته
_ هیچ			🗌 خیلی خفیف	_ خفيف] متوسط		شدید		🗌 خیلی شدید



						ی شما شدہ است؟	ی تا چه اندازه مانع از انجام کارهای عاد:	۲۲- در طی چهار هفته گذشته درد بدن
] اصلا مانع نشده			مى	_ کہ] به طور متوسط	🗌 تقريبا تا حدى] فوق العاده زياد
ساس شما و اینکه در طی چهار هفته گذشته چطور بودید، است لطفا موردی را انتخاب کنید که به احساس شما نزیکتر باشد.								این سوالها در مورد احساس شما و
هيچ وقت	مقداركمي از ا وقات	گاهی اوقات	مقدار زیادی از اوقات	بيشتر اوقات	همه اوقات		گزینهما:	
							۲۳- آیا روحیه خوبی داشته اید؟	
							۲۴- آیا خیلی عصبانی بوده اید؟	
						ال نمی کرد؟	انی بوده اید که هیچ چیز شما را خوشح	۲۵- آیا آنقدر عصب
							۲۶- آیا احساس آرامش می کردید؟	*
							آیا خود را با انرژی احساس می کردید؟	-77
							۲۰- آیا احساس فرسودگی داشته اید؟	٨*
						د؟	با احساس غمگینی یا نا امیدی داشته ایا	[– ۲۹*
							۳۰- آیا شخص خوشحالی بوده اید؟	*
							۳۱۹- آیا احساس خستگی داشتید؟	<u>*</u>

	بيرگذار بوده است؟	بر فعالیتهای اجتماعی شما تاث	زان مشکلات و مسائل جسمی و عاطفی	۳۲-در طی چهارهفته گذشته تا چه می
🗌 همه ی اوقات] بيشتر اوقات	🗌 گاهی اوقات] مقدار كمي از اوقات	🗌 هيچ وقت

					موارد زیر تا چه اندازه در مورد شما صادق یا نادرست است.
کاملا نا در ست	بيشتر نادرست	نميدانم	بيشتر درست	کاملا درست	گزینەھا:
					۳۳– من از دیگران زودتر بیمار می شوم
					۳۴- سلامت من در حد سلامت دیگران است
					۳۵- انتظار دارم وضعیت سلامتی ام بدتر شود
					*۳۶- وضعیت سلامتی من در حد عالی است

* Starred items are deleted for TBI patients.

** Item 2 is not included in scoring.