

PROMIS measures can be used to assess symptoms and function in long-term hematopoietic cell transplantation survivors

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This study compared two methods for assessing Patient-Reported Outcomes: the Patient-Reported Outcomes Measurement Information System (PROMIS) and the Short Form 36 (SF36). At the time of the survey, the PROMIS was a new, freely available instrument not evaluated in the hematopoietic cell transplantation (HCT) setting. The PROMIS uses generic scores (not disease-specific), which is useful in examining HCT as multiple different diseases may be present in the patient population. The study included 1,634 adult HCT survivors, and results indicated that physical and mental symptoms and function of HCT survivors can be adequately assessed by both PROMIS and SF36, as the PROMIS measures showed strong correlations with SF36. Both instruments revealed that the overall well-being of HCT survivors was similar to the general population. Physical health was somewhat lower, consistent with previous HCT literature, while mental health was comparable. This suggests PROMIS may be a reliable alternative patient-reported outcome (PRO) measure in HCT settings. Notably, the study highlighted the potential benefits of using the shorter PROMIS Global Health measure to reduce respondent burden and enhance participation.

PROMIS, being freely available, easily accessible, and validated in various populations, emerges as a valuable tool for assessing the quality of life in a HCT setting, where long-term survivors may face various symptoms and functional deficits. The findings encourage the adoption of PROMIS measures to streamline the assessment process and improve the overall patient experience in long-term survivorship post-HCT.