

Outcome measure developed for Crohn's perianal fistula

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(HealthDay)—A patient-reported outcome measure (PROM) has been

developed for Crohn's perianal fistula, which has good internal consistency, excellent stability, and good responsiveness and construct validity, according to a study published in the September issue of *Gut*.

Samuel O. Adegbola, M.B.B.S., Ph.D., from Imperial College London, and colleagues generated a draft questionnaire using unstructured qualitative patient interviews on living with Crohn's perianal fistula, a nationwide multidisciplinary consensus exercise, a systematic review of outcomes assessing medical/surgical/combined treatment, and a patient and public involvement day. Psychometric properties, including construct validity, were examined, and reliability and responsiveness were assessed.

A final 28-item questionnaire was developed using data from 211 patients. The researchers found good internal consistency (Cronbach's alpha, 0.88), excellent stability (intraclass correlation, 0.98), and good [responsiveness](#) and construct validity for the Crohn's Anal Fistula Quality of Life (CAF-QoL), which showed a positive correlation with the U.K. Inflammatory Bowel Disease Questionnaire and the Hospital Anxiety and Depression Scale.

"Assessing quality of life in patients with [inflammatory bowel disease](#) is an important component of medical and surgical management and clinical decision making," the authors write. "The CAF-QoL is the first disease-specific PROM in Crohn's perianal [fistula](#) developed with a patient-centered methodology."

Several authors disclosed financial ties to the biopharmaceutical industry.

More information: [Abstract/Full Text](#)

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