

0047

## **Validation of the disability component of the Late-life function and disability instrument (LLFDI) among community-living older adults**

Wan Ying Tan, Lindy Clemson

*University of Sydney, Faculty of Health Sciences, NSW, Australia*

**Background:** Limitations in current instrumentation have hindered efforts to evaluate the effectiveness of clinical and community-based interventions for older adults. These limitations include the lack of conceptual clarity of function and disability, poor sensitivity of measures, and frequent high ceiling and floor effects. The recent development of the Late-life function and disability instrument (LLFDI) is an important contribution to the measurement of function and disability in older adults. The instrument's clear operational definition of function and disability makes it a potential outcome measure for the evaluation of existing rehabilitation services. Previous studies have examined and determined its psychometric properties. At present, the clinical utility of LLFDI has not been established for older Australian adults

**Aim:** The study aims to examine the construct validity of the disability component of the LLFDI among community-living older adults.

**Method:** A secondary analysis design was adopted in the quantitative and validity study. Baseline data of community-living older adults (n=318) aged 70 or older was obtained from the Lifestyle Integrated approach to reduce Falls through Exercise (LIFE) project. Rasch modeling was used to examine the construct validity of the disability component. The disability component was also correlated against health, physical and disability measures.

**Findings:** This research will further examine the psychometric properties of the LLFDI. Results on the instrument's (1) unidimensionality (item fit statistics, hierarchical ordering of the items, item reliability index), (2) ability to differentiate older adults with different levels of disability, and (3) level of correlations with other health, physical and disability measures will be presented.

**Conclusion:** Validation of the LLFDI will contribute to the understanding of the concept of disability among community-living older Australian adults. Healthcare professionals can also be potentially provided with a useful tool to guide clinical practice.