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Special communication

Recommendations for the Use of Common Outcome Measures in Traumatic Brain Injury Research

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Abstract

Wilde EA, Whiteneck GG, Bogner J, Bushnik T, Cifu DX, Dikmen S, French L, Giacino JT, Hart T, Malec JF, Millis SR, Novack TA, Sherer M, Tulsky DS, Vanderploeg RD, von Steinbuechel N. Recommendations for the use of common outcome measures in traumatic brain injury research.

This article summarizes the selection of outcome measures by the interagency Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Outcomes Workgroup to address primary clinical research objectives, including documentation of the natural course of recovery from TBI, prediction of later outcome, measurement of treatment effects, and comparison of outcomes across studies. Consistent with other Common Data Elements Workgroups, the TBI Outcomes Workgroup identified a set of common data elements for

the TBI Outcomes Workgroup adopted the standard 3-tier system in its selection of measures. In the first tier, core measures included valid, robust, and widely applicable outcome measures with proven utility in TBI from each identified domain, including global level of function, neuropsychological impairment, psychological status, TBI-related symptoms, executive functions, cognitive and physical activity limitations, social role participation, and perceived health-related quality of life. In the second tier, supplemental measures were recommended for consideration in TBI research focusing on specific topics or populations. In the third tier, emerging measures included important instruments currently under development, in the process of validation, or nearing the point of published findings that have significant potential to be superior to some older (‘‘legacy’’) measures in the core and supplemental lists and may eventually replace them as evidence for their utility emerges.



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Key Words

Outcome assessment; health care; Brain injuries; Neurobehavioral manifestations; Research; Rehabilitation

List of Abbreviations

ADL, activity of daily living; ASSIST, Alcohol, Smoking, and Substance Use Involvement Screening Test; AUDIT, Alcohol Use Disorders Identification Test; BSI-18, Brief Symptom Inventory 18; BVMT-R, Brief Visuospatial Memory Test ‘‘Revised; CDE, common data element; CHART, Craig Handicap Assessment and Reporting Technique; CHART-SF, Craig Handicap Assessment and Reporting Technique Short Form; Cog-FIM, FIM Cognition Subscale; COWAT, Controlled Oral Word Association Test; CRS-R, JFK Coma Recovery Scale ‘‘Revised; CWIT, Color-Word Interference Test; DRS, Disability Rating Scale; FAD, Family Assessment Device; FrSBe, Frontal Systems Behavior Scale; GOS, Glasgow Outcome Scale; GOS-E, Glasgow Outcome Scale (Extended); GPT, Grooved Pegboard Test; MCS, minimally conscious state; MPAI-4, Mayo-Portland Adaptability Inventory; MMPI-2, Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory 2; MMPI-2-RF, Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory 2, Restructured Form; NIH, National Institutes of Health; NINDS, National Institute on Neurological Disorders and Stroke; NOS-TBI, Neurological Outcome Scale for Traumatic Brain Injury; NSI, Neurobehavioral Symptom Inventory; PART, Participation Assessment With

Recombined Tools; PCL-C, Posttraumatic Stress Disorder Check List“Civilian Version; PCL-M, Posttraumatic Stress Disorder Check List“Military Version; PCL-S, Posttraumatic Stress Disorder Check List“Stressor Specific Version; PI, Participation Index; PROMIS, Patient-Reported Outcomes Measurement Information System; PTSD, posttraumatic stress disorder; QOLIBRI, Quality of Life After Brain Injury; RAVLT, Rey Auditory Verbal Learning Test; RPQ, Rivermead Post Concussion Symptom Questionnaire; SF-12, Medical Outcomes Study 12-Item Short Form Health Survey; SF-36, Medical Outcomes Study 36-Item Short Form Health Survey; SWLS, Satisfaction With Life Scale; TBI, traumatic brain injury; TBI-QOL, Traumatic Brain Injury“Quality of Life; TMT, Trail Making Test; VA, Veterans Affairs; WAIS-III, Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale, Third Edition; WAIS-IV, Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale, Fourth Edition; WHO, World Health Organization; WRAT-4, Wide Range Achievement Test, Fourth Edition

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