

# Assessment of Perceived Importance and Use of Quality of Life Concept in Persons with Intellectual Disabilities (PID) in Spain

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## Introduction

This research is focused on the study of the meaning and use of the concept of Quality of Life in persons with Intellectual Disabilities.

We try to support the multidimensional theoretical model proposed by Schalock and Verdugo (2001-2002) with the aim of supporting the importance and applicability of the 8 core domains and 24 associated indicators.

The Quality of Life concept focuses on the importance of the individual's appraisal.

## Method

Validation of the "Cross Cultural Indicators of Quality of Life: assessment of the perceived importance and use" questionnaire (PID Version) (Verdugo, Schalock, Wehmeyer, Jenaro & Caballo, 2001).

Psychometric characteristics: Reliability, validity (e.g. Factor analysis and a study of internal consistency)

Assessment of individuals with intellectual disabilities. Perception of importance and use, by agencies and services, of the 8 core quality of life domains and associated core indicators.

232 Spanish participants with intellectual disabilities, giving their own points of view. Results were used for the validation and the assessment.

## Discussion

Quality of Life should become the conceptual frame for setting goals and for evaluating programs and services.

Person Centered Planning. Value PID' appraisal as users of the services, breaking with the traditional approach that evaluates quality without considering users' points of view.

Support the growing consensus that PIDs' Quality of Life involves the same factors as for people without disabilities.

Theoretical model proposed by Schalock and Verdugo (2001) includes Quality of Life domains considered relevant for people with disabilities, and allows development of adequate instruments for this concept's assessment.

## Conclusions

- The questionnaire is **valid and reliable**
- The questionnaire fits **PID' characteristics**.
- The questionnaire **serves to aid** planning and management of services for PIDs.
- 8 domains and 24 indicators are **highly valued** in importance and use.
- Importance appraisals** are higher than those of use.
- Variables like **gender, age, type of service** (government vs private), **housing and employment** can explain differences in importance and use appraisals.

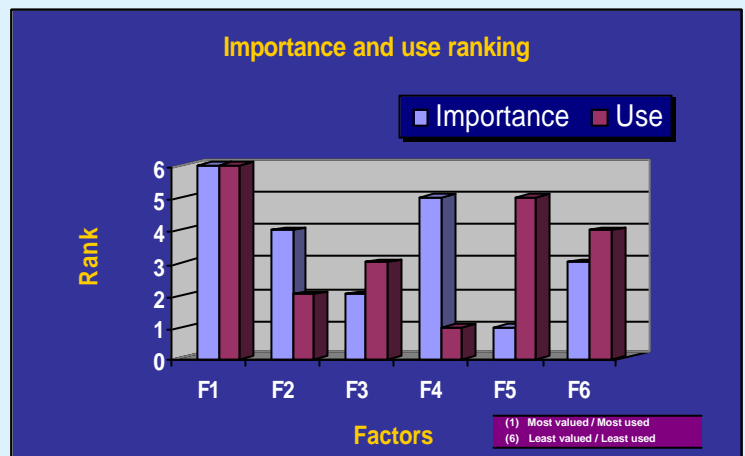
## Results

### Validation of the Questionnaire

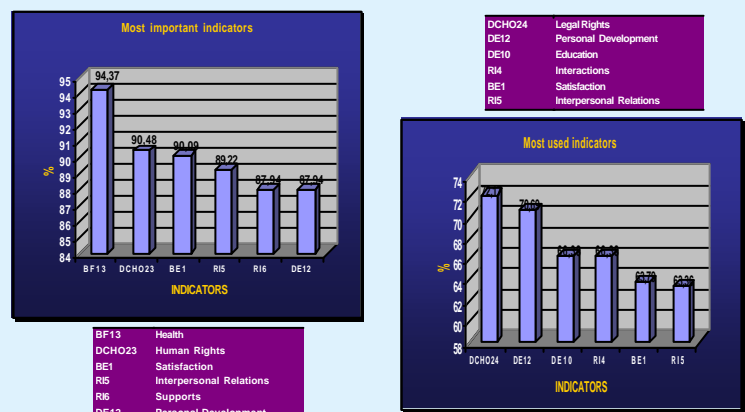
Reliability Analysis	Validity Analysis
<b>Cronbach's Alpha Coefficient: <math>\alpha = 0.80</math></b> 21 items	<b>Content Validity:</b> - Literature review - Pilot study to 6 PcDI
	<b>Construct Validity:</b> - Exploratory factorial analyses - 6 factors solution (explains 53.81% of total variance)

Factors	Name
Factor 1	Self-determination and Social Inclusion
Factor 2	Personal Development and Physical Well-being
Factor 3	Rights
Factor 4	Emotional Well-being and Social Interactions
Factor 5	Interpersonal Relations and Housing
Factor 6	Employment and Daily Living Activities

### Importance and Use of Quality of Life Factors



### Importance and Use of Quality of Life Indicators



## References

- Schalock, R.L. & Verdugo, M.A. (2002). Handbook of quality of life for human service practitioners. Washington, DC: American Association on Mental Retardation.
- Verdugo, M.A., Schalock, R., Wehmeyer, M., Caballo, C. & Jenaro, C. (2001). Cuestionario de Indicadores transculturales de calidad de vida: evaluación de su importancia y uso. Salamanca: Universidad de Salamanca, Manuscrito sin publicar.