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Assessment of validity and reliability of Gujarati translation of penn state worry questionnaire (PSWQ) in patients with generalized anxiety disorder (GAD) in comparative clinical trial of Buspirone & Sertraline tablets

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Background: Anxiety is ubiquitous. Anxiety disorders can adversely affect quality of life, mobility, social functioning, and health care. Anxiety disorder comprises clinical conditions of generalized anxiety disorder, panic disorder, post-traumatic stress disorder, social anxiety disorder and phobia. Questionnaires form an important method of data collection in a number of situations and have been used extensively in a variety of anxiety disorders to diagnose the correct level of anxiety.

Methodology: Penn state worry questionnaire was developed to measure worry objectively. It comprises 16 items for measuring excessive, generalized, and uncontrollable worry in patients. This study, was conducted in healthy volunteers and anxiety patients (n=71), and investigated the reliability and validity of the Gujarati version of PSWQ. Reliability of the PSWQ was established by using test- retest and cronbach α to find out the internal consistency. To examine the validity, we calculated the correlation with new ZSRAS questionnaire and validated HADS questionnaire by using convergent and discriminate validity. Additionally, we also performed the specificity and sensitivity of the PSWQ with ROC curve.

Conclusion: The PSWQ's reliability and validity were satisfactory, and it is very useful tool for objectively measuring the worry of patients knowing Gujarati language fluently.

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