

Author's response to reviews

Title: Translation and Validation of the Dutch Language Version of the CDC Symptom Inventory for Assessment of Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (CFS)

Authors:

Ruud C.W. Vermeulen (rv@cvscentrum.nl)

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Author's response to reviews: see over

To the Editor,

Thank you for considering my paper for publication. I am grateful to the reviewers for their study of the paper and their valuable suggestions for improvement.

Dr Wagner:

1. I added –DLV to CDC Symptom Inventory to indicate Dutch Language Version.
2. Minor was changed to accompanying
3. The gender differences were tested by Chi-square analysis
4. An analysis of co-variance was added.
5. The Zung and 4DSQ were removed; they were interesting, but also confusing.
6. This problem was solved in 5.
7. The SEM was added to the figures.

Dr Reeves:

1. Permission of the MED for this study was not required. The study was limited to one questionnaire.
2. The patients were described more extensively as all patients who visited the Center in one year for fatigue and their accompanying healthy (better defined) friends and relatives. The difference in gender and age is explained. For demographic characteristics: table 1. and all patients were Caucasian.

The problem of sex differences was given serious attention. I decided to present the data for men and women separately. Analysis of the data from the last years indicates that women score higher than men on most fatigue scores. I did not add this for the same reason as I left the Zung and the 4DSQ out.

I hope that the manuscript is acceptable after these revisions.

Sincerely yours,

Ruud C.W. Vermeulen