

INTRODUCTION

- Migraine impairs patient’s quality of life¹. Many instruments, such as EuroQol-5D (EQ-5D), migraine-specific quality of life questionnaire (MSQ), headache impact test -6 (HIT-6), and migraine disability assessment (MIDAS) are broadly used to capture the quality of life of migraine patients.
- However, there are limited studies on which instrument is more appropriate when measuring the quality of life of migraine patients.
- The aim of this study was to collect opinions from migraine patients on which instrument captures the migraine-related quality of life better between EuroQol-5 Dimensions (EQ-5D) and Migraine Specific Quality of Life v2.1 (MSQ v2.1).

METHODS

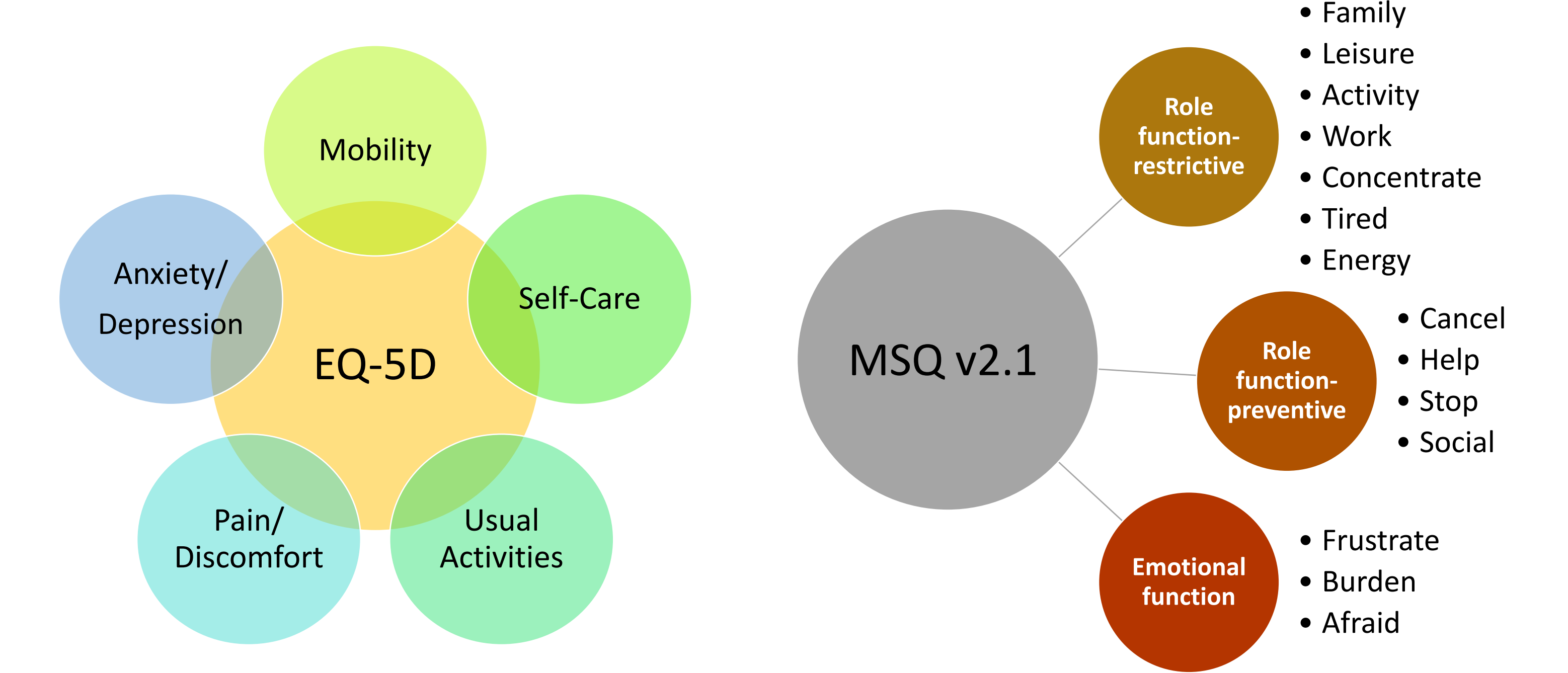
- **Study design:** Focus Group Interview Study
- **Study participants:** Selected eligible participants among the general population who are a panel of the Hankook research, the survey research company in Korea.
 - Hankook research has a panel of approximately 350,000 people with information on sociodemographic characteristics.
- **Eligible patients**
 - 20-59 years old
 - Live in Seoul and the metropolitan area nearby Seoul.
 - Experienced periodical migraine that affects daily life within 3 months.
 - Having at least one migraine diagnosis in a lifetime
 - Experienced migraine more than 8 days per month.

• Focus Group Interview Study

–Professional moderator conducted the interview, following the 3 steps:
1. Introduction
All participants introduced themselves briefly and each participant was asked to talk about the clinical characteristics of one’s migraine: when it occurs, how was the symptom like, and how it was treated.

2. Fill out questionnaires

Participants were asked to complete Korean version of EQ-5D and MSQ v2.1 questionnaires



- EQ-5D: Consisted with five dimensions, each dimension has one question.
- MSQ v2.1: Consisted with three dimensions, each dimension has several questions.

3. Asked participant’s opinions on questionnaires.

Following questions were asked:

- Do you think each questionnaire can capture the quality of life of migraine patients well enough?
- Which questionnaire reflects the migraine patients’ quality of life better?

CONCLUSIONS

- In this study, we collected migraine patient’s opinion to find out which questionnaire captures migraine patient’s quality of life better between EQ-5D-5L and MSQ v2.1.
- Interview participants evaluated MSQ v2.1 as a more appropriate instrument to capture the migraine-related quality of life than EQ-5D-5L.
- However, migraine patients pointed out that, the MSQ v2.1 questionnaire also did not capture migraine patients’ quality of life well enough. One of the reason was the lack of questions about the patient’s emotions.

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RESULTS

• Characteristics of Focus Group			
Number of Patients	Number of Women (%)	Mean age in years (SD)	Mean migraine days per month (SD)
8	5 (62.5)	44.9 (9.9)	8.6 (1.5)
SD= Standard Deviation			

• Patient’s evaluation on EQ-5D-5L and MSQ v2.1 Questionnaire

EQ-5D-5L questionnaire	
Common perception of participants	Example of conversation
- Participants thought the contents of the questionnaire was too simple and general to capture one’s migraine pain enough.	- ‘ This questionnaire seems to be not related with migraine’
- Participant thought because migraine is acute symptom, the questionnaire could not capture the quality of life of migraine if the answering is done when patient do not have migraine.	- ‘ Questions in this questionnaire seem to be more related with my back pain rather than my headache’
	- ‘ This questionnaire asked me to check your own health status today. Since it is limited to current status, all those who are not sick right now will get results ‘having no problem’.”

MSQ v2.1 questionnaire	
Common perception of participants	Example of conversation
- Participant thought the questionnaire tried to capture the quality of life of migraine patients.	- ‘Questions on the questionnaire are not specific enough, but they ask things I usually feel when my migraine occurs’
- Participants evaluated that questions in the questionnaire are restricted to role functions. Participants thought more questions about patients’ emotions are needed	- ‘ This questionnaire mainly focused on the role function. I feel really depressed, and everything is bothersome when a migraine occurs. The doctor also told me that my quality of life will be reduced. However, in this questionnaire, there was a lack of questions about my emotions. There were lots of questions that I couldn’t agree with. It would have been nice if this questionnaire ask more about emotional things.’

•Which questionnaire better capture the migraine patient’s condition better between EQ-5D-5L and MSQ v2.1?

Common perception of participants	Example of conversation
- Seven out of eight patients (87.5%) evaluated that MSQ v2.1 reflects migraine patient’s condition better than EQ-5D-5L.	- ‘ Because MSQ v2.1 has more scale than EQ-5D-5L, so it seems to have more discriminating capacity.’
	- ‘Also, MSQ v2.1 has more questions, so this questionnaire can measure the condition better.’

•Other Opinion

Perception of participants	Example of conversation
- One participant pointed out that the results of EQ-5D-5L depend on the condition of the patient on the day of the study.	- “When I answered the EQ-5D-5L questionnaire, because I don’t have a headache right now, I checked ‘having no problems’ to all questions. In this case, it seems like I don’t have a headache. But, on the days when I have a migraine, my answer to all EQ-5D-5L questions would be ‘having extreme problems’. So, I think the results of the EQ-5D-5L questionnaire depend greatly on my condition on the day of measurement.’

REFERENCE

- Lipton et al (2003). Cephalalgia 23(6): 441-50.
- Jason et al (2007). Quality of life research 16:1231-37