

## 17 Questions to Answer in Evaluating Generalizability of Instruments Across Populations

McDowell I and Newell C. Measuring Health. Oxford University Press. Oxford, England. 1996

1. What is the name of the measurement tool?
2. What is/are the name(s) of the measurement tool developer(s)?
3. In which population(s) and age group(s) was the tool developed?  
(Ex: Caucasians, men, college students, etc.)
4. To which population(s) has the tool been applied since its original publication?
5. Has the tool been tested in the population(s) of interest?
6. Has the tool been tested in older populations? If so, in which age cohort(s) was it tested?
7. Is the tool a general measure or a disease-specific measure?
8. What is the reading level of the measurement tool?
9. What are barriers to using the measurement tool?
10. What are the reliability coefficients of the tool components or the overall reliability of the tool, by population?
11. In what ways has the tool been validated?
12. Is the tool self- or professionally-administered?
13. What is the average length of time of completing the tool?
14. What is the conceptual approach to the topic area (such as psychological well-being)?
15. Is this conceptual approach relevant to/appropriate for the population of interest?
16. Is the original purpose of the tool appropriate for use in the proposed study?
17. What are the published citations of the measurement tool?