

## **2023 Directory of EuroQol PhD Network Members**

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Co-Chairs: Joshua M. Bonsel, Benjamin M. Craig

### **Introduction**

- EuroQol PhD Network was established in September 2022 for and by doctoral students conducting research on the measurement and valuation of health. The aim of the Network is to bring these students together and to offer a programme of activities to support their career development.
- The EuroQol PhD Network requires students to be actively enrolled in a doctoral program and conduct research that focuses on the measurement and valuation of health and is aligned with the EuroQol scientific aims. A doctoral student must complete a brief application confirming the above-mentioned criteria, which is reviewed by the chairs of the Network and by the members of the Education and Outreach Working Group (EOWG) of the EuroQol Research Foundation.
- In 2022, 21 students volunteered to be the founding members of the EQ PhD Network (see EuroQol website). Two members (Suzana Karim, Andrea Libório Monterio) graduated in 2022 and became the Network's first alumni. The EOWG approved 15 applications in January 2023 and 7 applications in April 2023, doubling the Network membership from 21 to 41 doctoral students in its initial year.

### **EQ PhD Network Membership**

To promote social cohesion and networking, the 41 Network members have provided a brief description of themselves and their research (1 page each, structured format). In this directory, the members are listed by seniority, starting with the founding members followed by those who joined more recently. Some students have presented at EuroQol meetings, published articles on EuroQol instruments, or received grants from the Foundation. The founding and newer members used slightly different forms, but the general structure is similar. For reference, the Appendix is the Code of Conduct for the 2023 EQ PhD Network members.

Using this directory, we hope to showcase the qualities and diversity of the 2023 cohort. Please feel free to contact its members directly. You may also send queries to the co-chairs via email ([phdnetwork@euroqol.org](mailto:phdnetwork@euroqol.org)).

**EUROQOL PHD NETWORK RECEPTION HOSTED AT THE 39TH EUROQOL PLENARY MEETING, CHICAGO, USA, 20 SEPTEMBER 2022**



*Photo taken by Dominik Golicki. (Left to Right): Meixia Liao, Rachel Lee-Yin Tan, Maja Kuharic, Ai-Ping Chua, Ling Jie Cheng, Xin Zhang, Suzana Karim, Jiajun Yan, Renee Jones, Yiting Luo, Diana Khanna, Maksat Jumamyradov, Benjamin M. Craig (co-chair with Joshua M. Bonsel). Doctoral students who attended the meeting but are not shown above include Giselle Aqwe Abangma, Andrea Libório Monterio, and Jonathan Nazari.*

**EUROQOL PHD NETWORK RECEPTION HOSTED AT THE 7TH EUROQOL ACADEMY MEETING, MILAN, ITALY, 7 MARCH 2023**



*Photo taken by Nathalie Pangalos Bastaricca (Left to Right): Jonathan Nazari, Maja Kuharic, Paul Schneider, Guangjie Zhang, Yifan Ding, Haode Wang, Alexander van Heusden, Lilla Roy, Jia Jia Lee, Jiabi Wen, Rachel Lee-Yin Tan, Joshua Michael Bonsel (co-chair), Cheuk Wai Ng, Wenjing Zhou, Ling Jie Cheng, Zhongyu Lang, and Benjamin M. Craig (co-chair)*

## FOUNDING MEMBERS (N=19)

Name	Giselle Aqwe Abangma, BSc, MSc
Contact	giselle.abangma@lshtm.ac.uk (pronouns: she/her/hers)
Biosketch	I have a BSc in pharmaceutical sciences, an MSc in health promotion and public health, and an MSc in health economics. Before commencing my PhD, I worked as an analytical chemist with GlaxoSmithKline, a health economist with the University of Oxford's Health Economics Research Centre (HERC), a health research analyst with Swissre, and briefly as a consultant writer with Open Health. My research focuses on the analysis of EQ-5D data for economic evaluation
Supervisors (role)	Professor Andrew Briggs BSc (Hons) MSc DPhil (1st supervisor) Andrew Lloyd BSc (Hons) MSc DPhil (2nd supervisor)
Year & Location	Expected completion in 2025, Health Services Research and Policy, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, London, United Kingdom
PhD abstract	<p>The EQ-5D is the most widely used generic instrument to measure, compare and value health status across disease areas. In the UK, the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) has specified the EQ-5D as its preferred method of utility measurement and as such has become the cornerstone of Health Technology Appraisal (HTA) affecting important decisions about access to new medicines. Despite all this, EQ-5D data are often under-reported, and inadequately analysed. As such, the main aim of the PhD is to explore the analysis of EQ-5D data for economic evaluation. The main aim of this project is likely to cover the following key research questions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Uncertainty around EQ-5D values used in cost effectiveness analysis and methods to address them</li> <li>• The concept of minimally important difference for a generic HRQoL instrument such as the EQ-5D</li> <li>• Informative missingness of EQ-5D data when health fluctuates</li> <li>• Impact of different modelling methods on EQ-5D data.</li> <li>• Explore the use of the visual analogue scale component of the instrument to enhance analyses of the tariff values.</li> </ul> <p>This research project will seek to extend the existing body of research on the design and analysis of EQ-5D data and add to the EuroQoL Group body of research.</p>
EQ papers (DOI)	
EQ grants (role)	Methods for addressing uncertainty around EQ-5D values (PhD student)
Working groups	Descriptive Systems, Population & Health Systems

Name (year)	Joshua Michael Bonsel, MD (Co-Chair with Benjamin M. Craig)
Contact	<a href="mailto:j.bonsel@erasmusmc.nl">j.bonsel@erasmusmc.nl</a> (pronouns: he/him/his)
Biosketch	My name is Joshua M. Bonsel, and I am a recent MD (2020, Erasmus University Rotterdam) and MSc in Health Economic, Policy and Law (2020, Erasmus University Rotterdam). Before starting my EuroQol PhD, I have worked as a MD (ANIOS) at GP Emergency Department (March, 2020 - March, 2021) and as MD (ANIOS) at COVID-19, internal medicine, cardiology and gastroenterology wards (November, 2020 - October, 2021). My research interests are mainly Quality of Life in general orthopedics, registry use of EQ-5D/other PROs, and as a “side-project” statistical shape modelling in pediatric orthopedic imaging.
Supervisors (role)	Gouke J. Bonsel, MD, PhD (co-supervisor) Max Reijman, PhD (co-promotor) Jan A.N. Verhaar, MD, PhD (promotor) M.F. Janssen, PhD (co-supervisor)
Year & Location	Expected completion in 2024, Orthopedic Surgery, Medicine, Erasmus University Rotterdam, Zuid-Holland, The Netherlands
PhD abstract	In this PhD-project the potential of EQ-5D in Orthopedics is demonstrated, thereby enhancing use of the Dutch arthroplasty registry. The proposed research program not only enables a PhD achievement of the candidate, but will also build up an expertise center at the department of Orthopedics at the Erasmus Medical Center on the best use of the EQ-5D, and other available outcome measures. The proposal includes 5 projects. Working packages: 1) Systematic review on use of PROMs specifically EQ-5D as quality improving tool, with a focus on Orthopedics 2) Using Dutch arthroplasty registry data to show EQ-5D inequalities in Orthopedics 3) Using Dutch arthroplasty registry data to study the impact of COVID-19 in Orthopedics 4) A sub-study from the POPCORN-survey to illustrate the COVID-19 impact in the general population with joint disease 5) A registry founding project in scoliosis children in which also the performance of the EQ-5D-A is compared to the EQ-5D-Y
EQ papers (DOI)	
EQ grants (role)	Measuring Quality of Life in Orthopedics, 287-PHD (PhD student); EQ-5D Inequalities in Dutch Orthopaedic patients., 200-2020RA (PhD student); Patient Reported Outcomes in Quality of Care. A systematic review with specific attention to barriers and opportunities for EQ-5D in orthopedic surgery, 145-2020RA (PhD student)
Working groups	Population & Health Systems, Youth

Name	Eline Bouwers-Beens, MSc
Contact	<a href="mailto:e.beens@utwente.nl">e.beens@utwente.nl</a> (pronouns: she/her/hers)
Biosketch	Eline Bouwers-Beens has a Master's in Health Sciences from the University of Twente (UT), the Netherlands. She is currently a doctoral student at the UT, Department of Health Technology and Services Research. Before joining the UT doctoral program, she worked as a junior researcher and lecturer at the same department. Her research interest is on health equality and health literacy, specifically related to shared decision making in clinical practice.
Supervisors (role)	H. Koffijberg, PhD (Supervisor) J.A. van Til, PhD (Co-supervisor) C.G.M. Groothuis-Oudshoorn, PhD (Co-supervisor) N. Bansback, PhD (External supervisor)
Year & Location	Expected completion in 2026, Health Technology and Services Research, University of Twente, the Netherlands
PhD abstract	<p>Shared Decision Making (SDM) has several benefits to patients and society, including improved patient satisfaction with health care decisions, better health outcomes, and lower costs. SDM requires well informed patients. Patient information provision can be improved by using patient decision aids (ptDAs), prior to or during consultation with patients. Many PtDAs inform patients about the potential benefits and harms of treatment. There is a growing trend to use personalized outcome predictions based on PROM data in PtDAs, to better inform patients about the potential benefits of treatment.</p> <p>At the same time, SDM and the use of ptDAs can potentially increase health inequalities, since understanding health related information requires high levels of health literacy.</p> <p>It is important to develop inclusive ptDAs that enable all patients to understand the expected effect of treatment on their health.</p> <p>The purpose of this PhD project is to explore the clinical value of the EQ-5D to inform patients about the benefit of treatment and to support decisions regarding treatment. To this end, I will (1) look into best ways to present outcome data of Patient Reported Outcome Measures (PROMs) (among which EQ-5D data) to patients with different levels of health literacy; (2) develop models to offer personalized outcome information to patients with multiple diseases (based on EQ-5D data); and (3) develop an inclusive decision aid to inform patients about health benefits in clinical practice.</p>
EQ papers (DOI)	
EQ grants (role)	Clinical Value of the EQ-5D, 285-PHD (PhD-student)
Working groups	Population & Health Systems

Name	Ling Jie Cheng, MPH, BSN
Contact	<a href="mailto:Sphclj@nus.edu.sg">Sphclj@nus.edu.sg</a> (pronouns: he/him/his)
Biosketch	Mr Cheng Ling Jie is a PhD student and Research Associate under the supervision of A/Prof Luo Nan at the Saw Swee Hock School of Public Health, National University of Singapore (NUS). He received his Master of Public Health and Bachelor of Science (Nursing)(Honours) from NUS. Prior to joining the university, he was a Senior Registered Nurse at the Khoo Teck Puat Hospital and held co-appointment as a Nurse Researcher of the Nursing Research Unit. His research interests include the validation of health-related quality of life instruments, medical decision-making, patient decision support intervention, and chronic disease management.
Supervisors (role)	Luo Nan, PhD (Thesis Advisor), Wang Wenru, PhD (Chair), Hey Hwee Weng Dennis, MBBS, MRCS, MMed, MCI, FRCS (Co-Thesis Advisor), Gabriel Liu Ka Po, MBBCh, MSc, FRCS, FRCSEd (Co-Thesis Advisor), Wu Xi Vivien, PhD (Co-Thesis Advisor)
Year & Location	Expected completion in 2025, Saw Swee Hock School of Public Health, National University of Singapore (NUS), Singapore
PhD abstract	Background: Low back pain (LBP) has been the leading cause of years lived with disability from 1990 to 2017. Despite the usefulness of spine surgery, there are wide variations in post-operative outcomes, and increased use of surgeries contributes to the heavy burden on health-care systems. Patient-reported outcome measures (PROM)-based patient decision support intervention (PDSI) guided by surgeons could potentially facilitate shared decision making. Aims: This project aims to develop and evaluate a surgeon-led, PROM-based PDSI for patients with LBP using an application that provides individualized postoperative health outcomes predictions (iPROP). Methods: Firstly, we will summarize the available evidence on the effects of PDSI on invasive treatment choice, decision-making related outcomes, PROs, and healthcare resource utilization outcomes using a meta-analytic approach. Secondly, we will conduct qualitative study to understand patients' and surgeons' perspectives on considerations and processes for decisions on elective surgeries for managing spine conditions and explore their views on a novel, web-based decision aid prototype. Thirdly, we will develop prediction algorithms through in-depth analysis of the existing patient-reported outcomes (PRO) and clinical data using both conventional methods and novel data analytics (e.g., machine learning). With these findings, we will then develop the application and an action plan for implementing the application in clinical practice by working with a multidisciplinary team, through iterative usability and pilot testing. Finally, we will assess the patient-centered effects of the PDSI in terms of decision quality and related outcomes, patient experience and satisfaction, and postoperative health outcomes using a pre-post interventional study design.
EQ papers (DOI)	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jval.2021.02.003">doi.org/10.1016/j.jval.2021.02.003</a>
EQ grants (role)	The ceiling effects of EQ-5D in general population health surveys: A systematic review and meta-regression, EQ-402-RA (Co-investigator); EQ-5D for proxy assessment of nursing home residents: A systematic review of feasibility and measurement properties, EQ-1517-RA (Co-investigator)
Working groups	Descriptive Systems, Population & Health Systems

Name	Ai-Ping Chua, MBBS MMed MRCP MPH FCCP
Contact	<a href="mailto:ai_ping_chua@nuhs.edu.sg">ai_ping_chua@nuhs.edu.sg</a> (pronouns: she/her/hers)
Biosketch	I am a respiratory physician at JurongHealth Campus, National University Health System (NUHS), Singapore. I am currently pursuing a part-time PhD program at Saw Swee Hock School of Public Health, National University of Singapore (NUS), Singapore. My current research interest is in health-related quality of life instruments in respiratory and sleep disorders.
Supervisors (role)	Luo Nan, PhD (Supervisor) Adeline Seow, MBBS (Chair) Julian Thumboo, MBBS (Member)
Year & Location	Expected completion in 2025, Saw Swee Hock School of Public Health, National University of Singapore (NUS), Singapore
PhD abstract	Background: EQ-5D is a popular generic health-related quality of life scale widely used in economic evaluation, clinical management, and research. However, its measurement properties in chronic obstructive airway conditions may be compromised by its limited dimensions, narrow time frame and severity-based questions. Specific examples of these conditions include asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) involving lower airways, and obstructive sleep apnea (OSA) affecting upper airways. The former relates to fluctuations and occurrences of flares which may not be adequately captured by the short time frame and severity-based responses, whereas the full impact of the latter may not be encapsulated by the scale's 5 dimensions. Aims: We therefore set out to critically appraise the psychometric performance of EQ-5D in major OAD. We investigate using longer timeframe periods, frequency-based responses, and bolt-on dimensions to enhance the measurement properties of EQ-5D in OAD. In addition, we will also explore the feasibility of delivering the instrument routinely in the clinical settings. Methods: We will perform systematic reviews to evaluate the psychometric performance of EQ-5D in chronic obstructive airway diseases and determine the most appropriate construct to bolt-on to EQ-5D in OSA. We will employ mixed methods with qualitative and quantitative designs - the former to explore alternative time frames and responses for asthma/COPD, and adequacy of bolt-on dimensions in asthma/COPD and OSA; the latter to assess the performances of these enhanced versions in the respective OAD. Similarly, we will use mixed method approaches to obtain stakeholders' input on the best design for collecting EQ-5D data in a busy clinical setting and to test its feasibility and sustainability. Relevance & future research: We hope the enhanced versions can improve EQ-5D's psychometric properties in chronic obstructive airway diseases to enhance its applicability and implementability in routine clinical settings. Further work may explore the utility of these enhanced versions as condition-specific preference-based measures.
EQ papers (DOI)	None
EQ grants (role)	"A mixed methods approach to testing alternative recall periods for EQ-5D (2nd revision)", 69-2020RA (Site PI)
Working groups	Descriptive Systems

Name	Ashwini Priyangika De Silva
Contact	<a href="mailto:apdesilva@student.unimelb.edu.au">apdesilva@student.unimelb.edu.au</a> (pronouns: she/her/hers)
Biosketch	Ashwini is a PhD student at the Melbourne School of Population and Global Health studying the social value of avoiding poor health states in children under the guidance of her principal supervisor, Ashwini holds a Bachelor of Business Administration in Business Economics from the University of Colombo, Sri Lanka and was awarded the Student of the Year 2020 and has previously worked as an Analyst attached to the commercial lending vertical of Acuity Knowledge Partners.
Supervisors (role)	Dr. Tessa Peasgood (Principal Supervisor) Professor Nancy J. Devlin (Co-supervisor) Associate Professor Richard Norman (External Supervisor)
Year and Location	Expected completion in 2025, Health Economics Unit, Centre for Health Policy, Melbourne School of Population Global Health, University of Melbourne, Victoria, Australia
PhD Abstract	The project will explore the relative social value of child versus and adult QALY by analyzing qualitative data on the relative social value of improvements in child health compared to adult health that will be collected within the context of Person Trade off(PTO) and pairwise choice exercise conducted in Australia. The primary objective of this study is to provide useful evidence to decision makers in Australia to understand public opinion on the social value of child health gains relative to adult health gains. The study aims to (1) provide weights for the social value of improvements in both length of life and health-related quality of life for each age from birth to young adulthood (0-24) versus gains to an adult (aged 40), based on the stated preferences of the Australian general public; (2) provide a summary for decision makers of the views of a representative sample of the Australian public and of parents with children with a health condition to understand how they feel about valuing health gains differently based on youth; (3) understand any difference in child vs adult weights between: extending length of life and improving quality of life, improving different domains of quality of life (physical health vs mental health) and extending length of life for 2 years versus 5 years; (4) understand the strength of preference towards physical health gains for patients of different ages relative to any preference for favouring those with a limited life expectancy. Given the increasing use of Absolute Shortfall as a modifier for QALY gains this explores the relative weight to age versus overall length of life; (5) understand whether any preferences derived from trade-off questions are consistent with expression of attitudes in attitudinal questions and understand the reasons for any inconsistencies; (6) test the impact of different study designs relating to including an 'opt out' option versus forcing respondents to select a preferred age group within the choice question. Half the sample will be forced to express a preference between groups of patients of different ages within their first question and the other half will be able to express equivalence of value in all questions and (7) check data consistency through a 'chaining' test of preferences.
EQ papers (DOI)	
EQ grants (role)	
Working groups	Population and Health systems



Name	Yifan Ding
Contact	<a href="mailto:y.ding@erasmusmc.nl">y.ding@erasmusmc.nl</a> (pronouns: she/her/hers)
Biosketch	My name is Yifan Ding. I am working as a first-year PhD candidate at the Department of Psychiatry, Erasmus MC, Rotterdam, the Netherlands. I am trying to focus on the topic "improving EQ-5D quality of life instruments for measuring and quantifying disease burden of mental conditions in China", which is also my funded project. The project I am working on now is the bolt-on of EQ-5D in China.
Supervisors (role)	Jan van Busschbach, PHD (Supervisor) Zhihao Yang, PHD (Co-supervisor)
Year & Location	Expected completion in 2025, Department of Psychiatry, Erasmus MC, Rotterdam, Zuid-Holland Province, the Netherlands
PhD abstract	<p>EQ-5D was found to have a high ceiling effect and be insensitive in detecting differences in health status in China. In recent years, the legitimacy of applying EQ-5D in the Chinese cultural setting has been questioned. Given health can be conceptualized differently in China, it can be argued that EQ-5D may miss some important questions for Chinese populations in describing health. However, no systematic investigations into this potential issue have been made and what important health dimensions to Chinese but not included in EQ-5D remains unknown.</p> <p>This study aims to systematically review relevant studies on the Chinese concepts of health and health-related quality of life, in order to identify those important health dimensions in a Chinese cultural setting but have not been included in EQ-5D.</p> <p>A scoping review will be undertaken to attain the research aim. First, a systematic literature search will be conducted in Chinese databases CNKI and Wanfang, as well as English databases EMBASE, MEDLINE and the EuroQol Asian Academy meeting proceedings. We will review articles on the following topics: 1) reporting HRQoL measures that were developed in a Chinese cultural setting; 2) constructing a conceptual framework of health or health-related quality of life specifically to Chinese culture; 3) conducting qualitative interviews to explore Chinese people's understandings of health. Second, two bilingual reviewers will screen titles, abstracts and full-text articles independently. Third, data will be extracted and synthesised. Fourth, a list of potentially important health dimensions that are not covered by EQ-5D will be identified.</p>
EQ papers (DOI)	
EQ grants (role)	
Working groups	Descriptive Systems

Name	Titi Sahidah Fitriana, MSc., M.Psi., Psychologist
Contact	<a href="mailto:t.fitriana@erasmusmc.nl">t.fitriana@erasmusmc.nl</a> (pronouns: she/her/hers)
Biosketch	Hi, my nickname is Titis, and I work as a lecturer and researcher at YARSI University, Jakarta, Indonesia. My PhD is part of my career development to upgrade my knowledge and experience as a researcher. I have a background in clinical psychology, and during my PhD, I pursued a master in Medical Psychology from Erasmus MC. I am naturally interested in numbers, which later led me to work extensively with psychometric testing and instrument validation. My research focuses on the validation and valuation of EQ-5D-Y in Indonesia.
Supervisors (role)	Jan van Busschbach, PhD (Promotor) Elly Stolk, PhD (Co-Promotor) Fredrick D.Purba, PhD (Co-Promotor)
Year & Location	Expected completion in 2023, Psychiatry, Medical Psychology and Psychotherapy, Erasmus MC, Rotterdam, The Netherlands
PhD abstract	The EQ-5D-Y instrument is a developing field in terms of instrument validation and method of valuation. To bring evidence for the validity of EQ-5D-Y-5L and also the valuation method for EQ-5D-Y-3L, my PhD project had several research aims: (i) Testing the psychometric properties of EQ-5D-Y-3L and EQ-5D-Y-5L (self-report and proxy versions) in pediatric patients; (ii) Testing the current valuation method of EQ-5D-Y-3L; (iii) Provide the population norms for both EQ-5D-Y instruments in Indonesia. As a follow-up of my study findings, one research project has been granted by the EuroQol that aims to investigate the rationale of adults' responses in valuating children's health state.
EQ papers (DOI)	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1007/s40273-017-0538-9">doi.org/10.1007/s40273-017-0538-9</a> ; <a href="https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0203091">doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0203091</a> ; <a href="https://doi.org/10.1007/s11136-016-1445-9">doi.org/10.1007/s11136-016-1445-9</a> ; <a href="https://doi.org/10.1186/s12889-018-5706-0">doi.org/10.1186/s12889-018-5706-0</a> ; <a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jval.2018.02.003">doi.org/10.1016/j.jval.2018.02.003</a> ; <a href="https://doi.org/10.1186/s12955-021-01889-4">doi.org/10.1186/s12955-021-01889-4</a> ; <a href="https://doi.org/10.1186/s12955-022-01996-w">doi.org/10.1186/s12955-022-01996-w</a>
EQ grants (role)	(a) Validity, Responsiveness and Test-Retest of EQ-5D-3L-Y and EQ-5D-5L-Y and their proxy versions in Pediatric Patients in Indonesia, 20180140 (Co-investigators); (b) Test of the minimal number of C-TTO states in the valuation protocol of the EQ-5D-3L-Y, 20180490 (Co-Principal Investigator); (c) Describing the Worse than Dead in Youth Valuation, 20200010 (Co-Principal Investigator)
Working groups	Descriptive Systems, Youth, Valuation

Name	Renee Jones, BSci MPH
Contact	<a href="mailto:reneej1@student.unimelb.edu.au">reneej1@student.unimelb.edu.au</a> (pronouns: she/her/hers)
Biosketch	I am a PhD student with the Health Economics Unit at the University of Melbourne, and my research is focussed on the measurement of paediatric health related quality of life (HRQoL) and paediatric patient reported outcome measures (P-PROMs). I hope to explore the clinical utility of the EQ-5D-Y as a routine PROM in managing clinical care in a tertiary paediatric children's hospital. I have previously completed a Bachelor of Science and Master of Public Health. Prior to starting my PhD in 2022, I was a Research Assistant with the Health Services and Economics group at the Murdoch Children's Research Institute, working across a range of research areas (HRQoL, mental health, asthma, childhood adversity, HTA assessment).
Supervisors (role)	Professor Kim Dalziel, PhD (Primary supervisor) Professor Nancy Devlin, PhD (Co-supervisor) Professor Harriet Hiscock, MB BS, FRACP, MD, FAAHMS, GAICD (Co-supervisor) Associate Professor Brendan Mulhern, PhD (Committee member)
Year & Location	Expected completion in 2025, Health Economics Unit, Centre for Health Policy, Melbourne School of Population Global Health, University of Melbourne, Victoria, Australia
PhD abstract	<p>Background: Increasingly clinicians, health service providers and patients see value in the use of patient reported outcome measures (PROMs) to inform clinical practice. As a short generic health measure, validated across a wide age range and with strong psychometric properties, the EQ-5D-Y is a promising tool for routine use as a clinical PROM for children. There is a paucity of research regarding the use of PROMs in children and the use of EQ-5D-Y as a clinical PROM.</p> <p>Aims: This PhD aims to assess the clinical utility of the EQ-5D-Y as a routine PROM in managing clinical care in a tertiary paediatric children's hospital.</p> <p>Methods: A knowledge to action framework will inform a four stage, mixed methods approach: 1) assessment of the performance of generic paediatric HRQoL instruments (including EQ-5D-Y) across a range of child age groups, health groups (chronic condition versus acute condition versus general population), and settings (hospital versus community), 2) comparison of paediatric condition specific and generic instruments across a range of child age groups and health groups (chronic condition versus acute condition), 3) co-design preferences for PROM integration with families and clinicians, and 4) pilot two alternative methods of presenting the EQ-5D-Y as a PROM to clinicians and families in a number of tertiary paediatric hospital outpatient clinics.</p> <p>Relevance for the EuroQol Group: Develop guidance for extended and sustained use of EQ-5D-Y in tertiary paediatric practice, including international extensions.</p>
EQ papers (DOI)	<a href="https://doi.org/10.3390/children8080714">doi.org/10.3390/children8080714</a>
EQ grants (role)	Evaluation of the EQ-5D-Y as a child PROM in tertiary hospitals for high impact childhood conditions, 330-PHD (PhD student)
Working groups	Population & Health Systems, Youth, Education & Outreach

Name	Maksat Jumamyradov
Contact	<a href="mailto:maksat@usf.edu">maksat@usf.edu</a> (pronouns: he/him/his)
Biosketch	I acquired my undergraduate degree in Public Finance at Istanbul University in 2011. Since 2017, I have been pursuing my PhD degree in Economics at the University of South Florida. I am a research assistant, and my fields of interest are Econometrics, Health economics and Industrial Organizations. I published an article titled "Biases in Maximum Simulated Likelihood Estimation of Bivariate Models" with Dr Murat Munkin.
Supervisors (role)	Murat Munkin, PhD (Advisor) Benjamin M. Craig, PhD (Advisor)
Year & Location	Expected completion in 2023, Economics, College of Arts and Science, University of South Florida, Tampa, USA
PhD abstract	This proposal has two objectives towards investigating the performance of the maximum simulated likelihood (MSL) estimator and comparing its performance to the Bayesian estimator. First, Jumamyradov and Munkin (2020) show that the MSL estimator leads to serious inferential biases under the bivariate normal and bivariate Poisson models. I will apply a similar approach to investigate the performance of the MSL estimator under the mixed logit model with and without inter-alternative correlations. Second, I will compare the performance of the maximum simulated likelihood (MSL) and Bayesian Markov chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) estimators under different specifications of the mixed logit model. I hypothesize that their relative performance depends on the specification, namely the number of random parameters and various taste patterns. I will also analyze how the MSL estimator performs in presence of random ancillary parameters that account for scale and discount heterogeneity. There are two main aims of this proposal: (1) Investigate the performance of the maximum simulated likelihood (MSL) estimator in (1a) the bivariate normal and Poisson models, and (1b) the trinomial logit model with inter-alternative correlations (substitution patterns) that violate the independence from irrelevant alternatives (IIA) property. (2) Compare the performance of the MSL and Bayesian estimators of the hierarchical-mixed logit model using simulated and empirical panel data (2a) with different numbers of independent random coefficients (2b) under different specifications of random coefficients (taste patterns) (2c) with random parameters that account for scale and discount heterogeneity.
EQ papers (DOI)	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1515/jem-2021-0003">doi.org/10.1515/jem-2021-0003</a>
EQ grants (role)	Sequential relief of child health problems, 304-PHD (PhD student); Fast-Track Proposal: SCRAP in Health Valuation, 207-2020RA (PhD student)
Working groups	Valuation, Health & Wellbeing

Name	Maja Kuharic, MPharm, Msc
Contact	<a href="mailto:mkuhar2@uic.edu">mkuhar2@uic.edu</a> (pronouns: she/her/hers)
Biosketch	Maja Kuharic is currently a PhD Candidate at the University of Illinois Chicago's College of Pharmacy. Her research interests involve measurement and evaluation of health-related quality of life and health outcomes in patients and caregivers. Maja received her master's degree in Health Economics and Pharmacoeconomics at Pompeu Fabra University in Barcelona and her master's degree in Clinical Pharmacy from the University of Zagreb.
Supervisors (role)	Simon Pickard, PhD (Chair); Brendan Mulhern, PhD (Committee member); Todd Lee, PhD (Committee member); Robin Turpin, PhD (Committee member); Lisa Sharp, PhD (Committee member)
Year & Location	Expected completion in 2023, Department of Pharmacy, Systems, Outcomes and Policy, College of Pharmacy, University of Illinois at Chicago, USA
PhD abstract	Background: "Self-perceived burden" (SPB) as a construct represents a potential source of distress that may derive from the burden patients feel the limitations of their health have imposed on others socially, emotionally, and financially. It is unclear whether SPB overlaps with or is distinct from existing measures developed by the EuroQol Group, specifically the EQ-5D and EQ-HWB. Aim: This PhD proposal aims to examine: (1) SPB construct in relation to the EQ-5D, EQ-HWB and other instruments of health and well-being; (2) the extent to which SPB and caregiver burden agree; and (3) measurement properties of EQ-HWB/EQ-HWB-S/EQ-5D-5L in the ability to detect the impact of caregiving. Methods: We will use data collected from a US sample of cancer survivors (n=403) and general population (n=500) recruited through an internet panel and through prospective data collection in patient-caregiver dyads. SPB will be examined and its relation to instruments measuring health and well-being (EQ-HWB, EQ-5D-5L, The Adult Social Care Outcomes Toolkit, Short Warwick-Edinburgh Mental Wellbeing Scale) through exploratory factor analysis, examining correlations between the items/domains of the instruments and testing known group comparison across social indicators hypothesized to be related to SPB. To address aim 2, we will conduct an online patient-caregiver dyad study (n=250+250) to examine the level of agreement between patient and caregiver perceived burden (using Carer-QoL, ASCOT). To address aim 3, we will use caregiver data collected to examine the construct validity of EQ-HWB/EQ-HWB-S/EQ-5D-5L as a measure for caregiver burden in terms of convergent and discriminative ability. Significance: SPB is emerging as an important construct that has been underrecognized as a source of insight into the impact of illness on families, and may provide an alternative means of obtaining information on caregiver health and well-being using a single source – the patient.
EQ papers (DOI)	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jval.2021.11.1361">doi.org/10.1016/j.jval.2021.11.1361</a> ; <a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jval.2022.01.003">doi.org/10.1016/j.jval.2022.01.003</a> ; <a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jval.2022.01.009">doi.org/10.1016/j.jval.2022.01.009</a> ; <a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jval.2021.12.007">doi.org/10.1016/j.jval.2021.12.007</a>
EQ grants (role)	Self perceived burden, caregiver burden and EQ measures – assessing measurement overlap, 414-PHD (PhD Candidate); EQ-HWB Goes to Italy: Comparison of the EQ-HWB/EQ-HWB-S and the EQ-5D-5L, 1514-RA (PI); Extending the QALY project – testing the face and content validity of a preliminary list of items in the United States, 20180080 (Co-PI); Psychometric assessment of the eQALY item pool in the United States, (Co-PI)
Working groups	Health & Wellbeing

Name	Jia Jia Lee, MPH
Contact	<a href="mailto:lee.jia.jia@u.nus.edu">lee.jia.jia@u.nus.edu</a> (pronouns: she/her/hers)
Biosketch	Jia Jia LEE is a PhD student under the supervision of Dr Nan LUO at the Saw Swee Hock School of Public Health, NUS. She completed MPH at the SSHSPH, NUS and has years of working experience in clinical research. Her research areas focus on quality of life, medical decision-making, and the development of patient decision aids. She is working on her PhD project funded by the Euroqol Research Foundation which is titled "An EQ-5D-based decision aid for bariatric surgery".
Supervisors (role)	<b>Nan Luo</b> , PhD (Advisor); <b>Asim Shabbir</b> , MBBS (PAK.), MMed (S'pore), FRCS (Edin.) (Co-advisor); <b>Nick Bansback</b> , PhD (Co-advisor); <b>He Hong-Gu, Linda</b> , PhD, MScN, BScMed, RN, MD, FAAN (Chairperson)
Year & Location	Expected completion in 2026, Saw Swee Hock School of Public Health, National University of Singapore (NUS), Singapore
PhD abstract	<p><b>Background:</b> The low utilization rate of bariatric surgery (BS) and the decision dissonance among BS recipients suggest that the current decision quality is suboptimal. The existing patient decision aids (PtDAs) for BS focuses on clinical outcomes. Information about health-related quality of life (HRQoL) following BS is absent. The existing PtDAs also lack a decision-making tool that helps the users make a decision that aligns with their personal values. A PtDA with both the clinical benefits and changes in HRQoL could potentially help patients considering BS make a quality decision.<b>Aim:</b> To explore the potential of an EQ-5D-based PtDA in improving decision-making of individuals considering BS.</p> <p><b>Methods:</b></p> <p>Study 1: Qualitative interviews involving patients considering/having rejected/received BS and healthcare professionals who provide consultation/counselling to obese patients considering BS.</p> <p>Study 2: Clinical and demographic data and routinely collected EQ-5D data of BS recipients will be analyzed to identify the preoperative predictors of post-operative EQ-5D outcomes.</p> <p>Study 3: A cross-sectional study will be conducted with adult patients who are qualified for BS but were on non-surgical treatment to understand the baseline predictors and the magnitude of improvement in EQ-5D outcomes 3-6 months post-treatment.</p> <p>Study 4: A web-based PtDA will be developed based on the findings from Studies 1 and 2.</p> <p>Study 5: The effectiveness of the PtDA will be pilot-tested by comparing a comparison arm and an intervention arm.</p> <p>This project echoes the aim of the Population and Health Systems Working Group by promoting and enhancing the use of EQ-5D as the major component of a PtDA for patients considering BS. This research would generate scientific evidence about the application of EQ-5D data collected in routine clinical practice to facilitate shared decision-making and to translate into enhanced clinical and patient-reported outcomes.</p>
EQ papers (DOI)	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1186/s12955-016-0477-8">doi.org/10.1186/s12955-016-0477-8</a>
EQ grants (role)	An EQ-5D-based decision aid for bariatric surgery, EQ Project 439-PHD (PhD Student)
Working groups	Population & Health Systems

Name	Meixia Liao, MA
Contact	<a href="mailto:meixia.liao@u.nus.edu">meixia.liao@u.nus.edu</a> (pronouns: she/her/hers)
Biosketch	Liao Meixia is currently a PhD student in Saw Swee Hock School of Public Health, National University of Singapore. She received her Master of Arts in Public Administration from Tsinghua University and Bachelor of Arts in Economics from Peking University, China. Her research interests are in valuation of health and quality of life, patient-reported outcomes, and economic evaluation.
Supervisors (role)	Nan Luo, PhD (Main Thesis Advisor) Kim Rand, PhD (Co-Advisor) Zhihao Yang, PhD (Co-Advisor) Milad Karimi, PhD (Co-Advisor)
Year & Location	Expected completion in 2025, Saw Swee Hock School of Public Health, National University of Singapore, Singapore
PhD abstract	<p>In cost-effectiveness analysis, health outcomes are measured using a utility scale where 1 corresponds to full health, 0 corresponds to being dead, and negative values for worse-than-dead (WTD) health states. While health-state valuation methods have advanced significantly in the past decades, they do not work well in measuring the utility of very poor health outcomes. This project aims to explore new methods for the valuation of very poor health outcomes for cost-effectiveness analysis of health technologies.</p> <p>The project will apply mixed methods and analyse both primary and secondary data. Briefly, a total of four studies are planned. Study 1 is an investigation into censoring issue of composite time trade-off (cTTO) tasks using a time-based willingness-to-accept question. Study 2 is a qualitative investigation of the thought processes for valuing WTD health states in cTTO tasks. Study 3 and 4 is an empirical testing of a novel TTO method which uses the pits state '55555' as the anchor state (referred to as 'pTTO').</p> <p>The project is expected to contribute to knowledge on the challenges in eliciting negative health-state utility. The new TTO methods are expected to improve valuation of WTD health states for cost-effectiveness analysis of health technologies.</p>
EQ papers (DOI)	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1007/s11136-022-03329-2">doi.org/10.1007/s11136-022-03329-2</a> <a href="https://doi.org/10.1007/s11136-023-03394-1">doi.org/10.1007/s11136-023-03394-1</a>
EQ grants (role)	Improving Valuation of Very Poor Health Outcomes for Cost-effectiveness Analysis of Health Technologies, EQ Project 76-2020RA (PhD student)
Working groups	Valuation, Population & Health Systems

Name	Paul Schneider, MD MSc
Contact	<a href="mailto:p.schneider@sheffield.ac.uk">p.schneider@sheffield.ac.uk</a> (pronouns: he/him/his)
Biosketch	I am a PhD student in the Wellcome Trust DTC for public health, economics, and decision science at ScHARR, the University of Sheffield. My background is in clinical medicine and health sciences. I am a physician by training, and completed a doctoral degree in medicine at the Institute for Health Systems Research, University of Witten/Herdecke, Germany. I also hold a research masters degree in health sciences from Maastricht University, the Netherlands.
Supervisors (role)	John Brazier, PhD (First Supervisor) Ben van Hout, PhD (Second Supervisor)
Year & Location	Expected completion in 2023, HEDS, ScHARR, University of Sheffield, South Yorkshire, United Kingdom
PhD abstract	I am interested in the measurement and valuation of health in the context of health economic evaluations. More specifically, I am studying normative aspects of the aggregation of individual health state preferences into a social preference. For my research, I draw on methods and perspectives from various fields, combining health economics and cost-effectiveness modelling with ideas from game, social choice, and democratic theory. Most recently, I have been working on a method, called OPUF, for eliciting health preferences for small groups and on the individual person level.
EQ papers (DOI)	<a href="https://doi.org/10.12688/wellcomeopenres.17518.1">doi.org/10.12688/wellcomeopenres.17518.1</a>
EQ grants (role)	Estimating quality-adjusted life expectancy for England (DeQoL-LIFE2);, 123-2020RA-2 (Co-PI); Decomposing the socioeconomic gradient in health-related quality of life over the life course (DeQoL-LIFE);, 123-2020RA (Co-PI); Conceptual challenges in the valuation of health in children, 117-RA (Co-PI); Health state utility rescaling and interpersonal comparisons, 20190940 (Co-PI); Better than dead? – but this or that? Testing how framing impacts viewing a health state as worse than dead, 404-RA (Co-PI)
Working groups	Valuation



Name	Rachel Lee-Yin Tan, BA
Contact	<a href="mailto:racheltanleeyin@u.nus.edu">racheltanleeyin@u.nus.edu</a> (pronouns: she/her/hers)
Biosketch	My research interest lies in HRQoL measurement and health services research, with focus on children's health. I have a background in psychology having graduated from the University of British Columbia with a BA (Hons). As a PhD student with the National University of Singapore, I received specific training on survey design, program effectiveness analysis, and patient-reported outcomes assessment. My PhD thesis aims to make available a local child and adolescent preference-based measure.
Supervisors (role)	Nan Luo, B.Sc., M.Sc., Ph.D. (Supervisor) Kavita Venkataraman, MBBS, PG DHA, PhD (Chair) Mihir Gandhi, CSci, CStat, PhD (Co-chair)
Year & Location	Expected completion in 2024, Health Systems and Behavioural Sciences, School of Public Health, National University of Singapore (NUS), Singapore
PhD abstract	Preference-based measures (PBMs) for measuring health-related quality of life (HRQoL) provide a convenient approach to derive health state values for the calculation of quality-adjusted life-years (QALYs) needed for cost-utility analysis (CUA) of health interventions or technologies. HRQoL data generated from PBMs can also be used to estimate the humanistic disease burden of paediatric conditions. To date, no such instrument has been made available for use in paediatrics in Singapore. EQ-5D-Y is a PBM suitable for use by children and adolescents. EQ-5D-Y has demonstrated good measurement properties in multiple paediatric populations. However, whether the EQ-5D-Y is valid, reliable and responsive in Singapore is unknown. In addition, no value set has been developed for EQ-5D-Y for use in the local context. Local value sets are preferred for calculation of QALYs in CUA. The overall aim of my project is to make preference-based HRQoL instruments available for use in paediatrics in Singapore. The specific aims of the project are: 1) to culturally adapt EQ-5D-Y or use in paediatrics in Singapore; 2) to assess measurement properties including validity, reliability, and feasibility of EQ-5D-Y in children and adolescents with asthma and eczema in Singapore; 3) to develop a local EQ-5D-Y value set for use in Singapore. The project will be conducted in two phases. In the first phase, EQ-5D-Y will be culturally adapted for use in Singapore following the standardised translation protocol provided by the EuroQol Group. In the second phase, validation of the EQ-5D-Y in children and adolescents with asthma and eczema will be conducted. Concurrently, valuation will be done for EQ-5D-Y in the local public to develop an EQ-5D-Y value set for use in Singapore following the EQ-5D-Y valuation protocol recommended by the EuroQoL Group.
EQ papers (DOI)	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jval.2021.02.003">doi.org/10.1016/j.jval.2021.02.003</a> ; <a href="https://doi.org/10.1007/s40273-019-00854-w">doi.org/10.1007/s40273-019-00854-w</a> ; <a href="https://doi.org/10.1007/s40271-020-00452-5">doi.org/10.1007/s40271-020-00452-5</a> ; <a href="https://doi.org/10.1007/s40271-020-00466-z">doi.org/10.1007/s40271-020-00466-z</a> ; <a href="https://doi.org/10.1007/s40271-018-00354-7">doi.org/10.1007/s40271-018-00354-7</a> ; <a href="https://doi.org/10.1007/s11136-020-02644-w">doi.org/10.1007/s11136-020-02644-w</a> ; <a href="https://doi.org/10.1007/s10198-019-01156-w">doi.org/10.1007/s10198-019-01156-w</a> ; <a href="https://doi.org/10.1007/s10198-022-01479-1">doi.org/10.1007/s10198-022-01479-1</a> ; <a href="https://doi.org/10.1007/s40271-020-00452-5">doi.org/10.1007/s40271-020-00452-5</a>
EQ grants (role)	
Working groups	Descriptive Systems, Valuation, Population & Health Systems, Youth, Health & Wellbeing

Name	Abraham Gebregziabihir Welie, MSc
Contact	<a href="mailto:abrishg20@gmail.com">abrishg20@gmail.com</a> (pronouns: he/him/his)
Biosketch	His educational background includes a Master of Science degree in pharmacoepidemiology and social pharmacy from Addis Ababa University and a Bachelor of Pharmacy from Mekelle University. His work experience includes serving as a lecturer and head of a course on pharmacoepidemiology and social pharmacy and leading a research team at Mekelle University. His research interests include the use of health-related quality of life and cost-effectiveness to evaluate health technologies in Ethiopia.
Supervisors (role)	Feng Xie, PhD (Supervisor), Elly Stolk, PhD (Co-supervisor)
Year & Location	Expected completion in 2026, Health Research Methodology, Faculty of Health Science, McMaster University, Hamilton, Canada
PhD abstract	<p>The goal of this PhD project is to improve health measurement and valuation for children and adolescents in Ethiopia. Specific objectives include: To compare psychometric performance of two measures of child health (EQ-5D-Y-3L and -5L); To explore whether the measurement properties are sustained across modes of administration self-report (interviewer assisted and self-complete), and proxy report); To generate an EQ-5D-Y-3L value set, reflecting how good or bad different child health states are according to the Ethiopian adult and adolescent population using the international valuation protocol; And to investigate whether children experiencing a health state and adults have the same idea about how good or bad those outcomes are.</p> <p>The Ethiopian Federal Ministry of Health has introduced a public health insurance system and aims to support healthcare financing with principles of HTA. The current practice of HTA for regulatory and formulary development is based on expert opinion and published HTA studies from other countries. This recent development of HTA system recommends the use of societal preferences for valuing health states and social health insurance. However, local value sets are not yet available for children and adolescents. Therefore, there is a rising need for research on youth health measurement and valuation in this country.</p>
EQ papers (DOI)	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.vhri.2019.08.475">doi.org/10.1016/j.vhri.2019.08.475</a> ; <a href="https://doi.org/10.1007/s10198-021-01412-y">doi.org/10.1007/s10198-021-01412-y</a> ; <a href="https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0264199">doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0264199</a>
EQ grants (role)	Valuing Health-State: An EQ-5D-5L Value Set for Ethiopians, 20170480 (PI); Feasibility, reliability and validity of using EQ-5D-Y-5L among healthy and adolescents with major mental disorders in Ethiopia, 20180500 (PI); Psychometric properties, feasibility and usefulness of the extended EQ-5D-Y-5L in children with prevalent disease conditions in Ethiopia, 20191010 (PI); Assessment and comparison of the feasibility and measurement properties of the EQ-5D-Y-3L and EQ-5D-Y-5L self-complete versions in the Tigrinya language and comparison with the CHU-9D, 133-2020RA (Co-PI); Investigating the aspects of HRQoL covered by pain/discomfort and the added value of the psoriasis bolt-ons (EQ-PSO) among patients suffering from skin diseases, 89-2020RA (PI); Investigating the impact of transitioning from EQ-5D-Y to the EQ-5D descriptive system, in a group of adolescents with different health conditions, 147-2020RA (PI); Assessing and comparing psychometric properties of both 3L/5L of EQ-5D-Y and adult EQ-5D versions in adolescents with prevalent disease conditions in Ethiopia, 225-2020RA (PI); Agreement of the Amharic EQ-5D-Y-3L and Y-5L self-report (by interview-administration and self-complete) and proxy-report, 340-2020RA (PI)
Working groups	Youth

Name	Jiajun Yan, MSc
Contact	<a href="mailto:yanj89@mcmaster.ca">yanj89@mcmaster.ca</a> (pronouns: he/him/his)
Biosketch	Jiajun is a PhD candidate in Health Technology Assessment at McMaster University. He holds an MSc in Biostatistics from University of Toronto and a BS in mathematics. Prior to his PhD, Jiajun had worked as a biostatistician responsible for clinical trial design and analysis in the pharmaceutical industry for a number of years. He is interested in economic evaluations and analysis of patient-reported outcomes.
Supervisors (role)	Feng Xie, PhD (Supervisor) Eleanor Pullenayegum, PhD (Committee member) Shun Fu Lee, PhD (Committee member)
Year & Location	Expected completion in 2024, Health Research Methods, Evidence and Impact (HEI), McMaster University, Toronto, Canada
PhD abstract	There is a growing interest in measuring patient-reported outcomes (PROs) in clinical research. The EQ-5D-5L has been often included to supplement disease-specific PRO instruments in randomized clinical trials (RCTs). The EQ-5D-5L data, if analyzed properly, can produce important evidence for two purposes: estimating the treatment effect between arms and deriving health utilities to support economic modeling. However, the analysis and reporting of the EQ-5D-5L in RCTs is rather limited, due at least in part to the lack of methodological guidance in analyzing utility data. Among those RCTs with published EQ-5D data, there is noticeable heterogeneity in choosing statistical models for data analyses. This PhD project aims at producing empirical evidence in comparing a wide range of statistical models in estimating treatment effect using the EQ-5D-5L and deriving health utilities for economic models. Furthermore, the output from this research program can be used to develop practical guidances on analyzing the EQ-5D-5L in the RCT setting. Such guidances can potentially improve the quality of analyzing and reporting the EQ-5D-5L in this context.
EQ papers (DOI)	
EQ grants (role)	Statistical methods for analyzing EQ-5D-5L data in randomized clinical trials, 345-PHD (PhD Candidate)
Working groups	Education & Outreach

Name	Guangjie Zhang, BSc
Contact	g.zhang@erasmusmc.nl (pronouns: she/her/hers)
Biosketch	From 2020, I began to study Pharmacoeconomics in Jinan University. In this year, I attended a research on setting a valuation index for EQ-5D-Y in Chinese Population. From then on, I started my research journey on EQ-5D field. I conducted research on measuring Health-related quality of life in clinical treatment and on the face validity of EQ-HWB in the Chinese population. In September, I will begin to study health economics comprehensively at Aberdeen University.
Supervisors (role)	Jan van Busschbach, PhD (Promoter) Zhihao Yang, PhD (Co-promoter)
Year & Location	Expected completion in 2027, Medical Psychology and Psychotherapy, Erasmus Medical Centre, Erasmus University Rotterdam, Rotterdam, the Netherlands
PhD abstract	EQ-HWB is a new generic instrument designed to capture health outcomes in mental diseases, well-being and social care. Additionally, it has the potential of generating QALY for conducting research in health economics. Given that EQ-HWB is developing, therefore, it still needs to conduct research on psychometric properties and to conduct a variety of research. On the other hand, the Chinese have a different concept of health and there is not much research on exploring Chinese populations' psychological characteristics. Hence, I want to conduct some research on measuring health concepts, on psychometric properties of EQ-HWB. Furthermore, I want to research psychological characteristics in different ages and areas in the Chinese population by combining EQ-5D-5L and EQ-HWB.
EQ papers (DOI)	
EQ grants (role)	
Working groups	Health & Wellbeing

Name	Wenjing Zhou, MSc
Contact	<a href="mailto:w.zhou.1@erasmusmc.nl">w.zhou.1@erasmusmc.nl</a> (pronouns: she/her/hers)
Biosketch	Wenjing Zhou started her PhD programme at Erasmus University Rotterdam in September 2021. Her research interests focus on the impact of health-related quality of life and outcome of chronic diseases in children in China. She got the BSc and MSc at Shanghai Jiaotong University, majoring in clinical medicine. She has been working as a pediatrician since 2008 in the department of Pediatrics, Shanghai Renji Hospital, China, mainly engaged in pediatric allergic diseases and rheumatic diseases. From 2018, as a visiting scholar, she studied at National University of Singapore, under the supervision of Professor Nan Luo. Since then, she has been working on the validation of EQ-5D-Y.
Supervisors (role)	Jan Busschbach, PhD (Promotor) Nan Luo, PhD (Co-promotor) Zhihao Yang, PhD (Co-promotor)
Year & Location	Expected completion in 2025, Department of Psychiatry, Section Medical Psychology and Psychotherapy, Erasmus Medical Centre, Erasmus University Rotterdam, Rotterdam, The Netherlands
PhD abstract	The EQ-5D is the world's leading instrument to measure health related quality of life in health economic evaluations of health care interventions. Health economic evaluations are used in health care policy aimed at increasing the effectiveness of health care and to reduce differences in health between populations (equity). We propose to work with the EuroQol Group to deliver a state-of-the-art EQ-5D questionnaire (youth version, EQ-5D-Y) suitable for use by children and adolescents in China. This instrument will aim to produce valid quality of life values of children and adolescents in China that can be used in health economic evaluations. This would be of great significance as there is a growing need to assess the cost-effectiveness of health interventions for young populations. It will also push the scientific development of the EQ-5D in China to the international frontier of the sciences. This PhD project aims to identify 3 research questions which are relevant to China and the EuroQol Group in validating the new version of the EQ-5D: 1) What are the psychometric properties, specifically, validity and reliability, of the Chinese version of EQ-5D-Y for China in children and adolescents? 2) How should existing valuation methods be adapted for use in the Chinese low aged population? How does the EQ-5D-Y proxy version perform in these populations? 3) Can the instrument produce valid quality of life values of children and adolescents in China that can be used in health economic evaluations, specifically in children with chronic diseases such as haematological malignancies, juvenile rheumatic diseases and allergic diseases?
EQ papers (DOI)	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1007/s10198-021-01309-w">doi.org/10.1007/s10198-021-01309-w</a>
EQ grants (role)	
Working groups	Youth

## **MEMBERS AS OF JANUARY 2023 (N=15)**

Akanksha Akanksha, BDS MPH

akanksha.akanksha@student.uts.edu.au (pronouns: she/her/hers), Australia

### **BIOSKETCH**

I am a second year PhD student at Centre of Health Economics Research and Evaluation (CHERE), UTS, Australia. I completed my Bachelor in Dental Surgery and Master in Public Health before starting my PhD. I am interested in quality of life research and health technology assessment. I have worked as an academic tutor in epidemiology and population health research. Currently I work as a part-time health economist at CHERE alongside doing my PhD.

### **DOCTORAL PROGRAM**

Centre for Health Economics Research and Evaluation, Faculty of Health , University of technology Sydney, New South Wales, Australia, Expected completion in 2025  
Supervisors (roles): Prof. Rosalie Viney (Primary supervisor); Prof. Deborah Street (Co-supervisor); A/Prof. Brendan Mulhern (Co-supervisor)

### **PHD ABSTRACT**

Economic evaluation is an essential tool that guides the way in which scarce health care resources are allocated within the health sector. A Quality Adjusted Life Year (QALY) is a metric that combines length of life and quality of life (QoL); and is used to conduct cost utility analyses (CUA) of healthcare interventions. Assessment of QoL is often more focused on the health-related aspect and other aspects such as social care related QoL (SCRQoL) are often not measured and or not valued enough. My PhD explores the methods for broadening the measurement of QoL by investigating the relationship between health related QoL (HRQoL) instruments like EQ-5D and SCRQoL instruments like ASCOT. Primarily, the PhD work explores statistical mapping methods to map between the two instruments and a combined instrument. This research work will provide evidence on the impact of using a more holistic instrument for health sector decision making.

### **EUROQOL RESEARCH**

Area of Interest: Descriptive Systems, Valuation

Abeer Al Rabayah, BSc, MBA, MSc  
Abeer-Ahmad-Hamdan.Al-Rabayah@umit-tirol.at (pronouns: she/her/hers), Jordan

#### BIOSKETCH

Dr Abeer Al Rabayah is the head of the Center for Drug Policy and Technology Assessment (CDPTA) at the King Hussein Cancer Center (KHCC) and a research associate at UMIT TIROL - University for Health Sciences and Technology, Austria. Abeer holds a BSc in pharmacy, an MBA, and a MSc in International Health Technology Assessment from the University of Sheffield. Her research interests are: decision analytical modeling, HTA processes, health-related quality of life, and outcome valuation studies

#### DOCTORAL PROGRAM

Dept. of Public Health, Health Services Research and Health Technology Assessment, Institute of Public Health, Medical Decision Making and HTA, UMIT TIROL - University for Health Sciences and Technology, Hall in Tirol , Austria , Expected completion in 2025  
Supervisors (roles): Uwe Sibert, Prof. Dr, MPH, MSc (Supervisor )

#### PHD ABSTRACT

Currently , I am a PhD student at UMIT TIROL - University for Health Sciences and Technology, Austria. My thesis includes interrelated projects with several planned publications. First, conducting a systematic review to describe the use of EQ-5D in Jordan and the region. Second, a valuation study of the EQ-5D-3L to generate a local value set that matches the health state preferences for Jordanians. Finally, an assessment of the impact of the generated Jordanian value set on ICERs and quality of life by demonstrating a practical case example for a cost-effectiveness project and an observational clinical study.

#### EUROQOL RESEARCH

Al-Rabayah AA, Al Froukh RF, Al Najjar B, Rayyan M, Salmany S, Iweir S, Nazer L. Quality of Life of Family Caregivers of Critically Ill Patients With Cancer Before and After Intensive Care Unit Admission Measured by EQ-5D 3-Level: A Longitudinal Prospective Cohort Study. Value Health Reg Issues. 2022 Jul;30:39-47. doi: [10.1016/j.vhri.2021.11.003](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.vhri.2021.11.003). Epub 2022 Jan 25.  
PMID: 35086001.

60-2020-VS: Generating an EQ-5D-3L value set for the Hashemite kingdom of Jordan, Primary Investigator

Area of Interest: Valuation, Education & Outreach, Health & Wellbeing

Anja Yvonne Bischof, M.A.  
anja.bischof@unisg.ch (pronouns: she/her/hers), Switzerland

#### BIOSKETCH

Anja Bischof is a PhD Candidate and research assistant at the Chair of Health Care Management since July 2020. Prior to this, she obtained her Bachelor's and Master's degrees at the University of St. Gallen. Her current research interests lie in the use of patient-reported outcomes measures, gender differences in healthcare, the inappropriate use of healthcare resources, i.e., low value care, and the investigation and development of chronic care programmes.

#### DOCTORAL PROGRAM

Chair of Health Care Management, School of Medicine, University of St. Gallen, St. Gallen, Switzerland, Expected completion in 2023

Supervisors (roles): Alexander Geissler, Prof. Dr. (Supervisor); Tobias Kowatsch, Prof. Dr. (Co-supervisor)

#### PHD ABSTRACT

A dashboard is a data-driven clinical decision support tool capable of querying multiple databases and providing a visual representation of key performance indicators in a single report. The use of PROMs in clinical dashboards supports the clinician's understanding of how treatments impact symptoms scores and it enables the identification of health-related quality of life (HRQoL) deterioration or improvement at an early stage. In the previous literature, mostly the benefit of using disease-specific PROMs in combination with clinical dashboards has been highlighted. In the context of this research area, the EQ-5D has only rarely been used. To fill this gap, this project aims to evaluate the success factors of the design principles concerning clinical dashboards including generic – i.e., the EQ-5D – and disease-specific PROMs. To evaluate differences in the clinical dashboards' requirements for specific disease areas, the investigation of the clinical dashboard's potential is focused on a one-time intervention (i.e., hip and knee arthroplasty) and the long-term management of a chronic disease (i.e., COPD). To investigate the research question, a literature review is conducted to shed light on focus aspects for the subsequent expert interviews. These findings will be used for the development of prototypes, which finally will be discussed by focus groups. The contribution of this research project is threefold: first, the elaboration of the success factors of clinical dashboards based on a literature review and expert interviews; second, the inclusion of the EQ-5D in combination with disease-specific PROMs into the dashboard, with a design that enhances the clinician's understanding of the patient's health status; third, the development of prototypes for both the one-time intervention and the chronic disease case and their evaluation in the focus groups, which will form the basis for building and developing the future "real" clinical dashboards.

#### EUROQOL RESEARCH

301-SG: Crafting and elaborating the potential of clinical dashboards incorporating PROMs, Co-Principal Investigator

Area of Interest: Population & Health Systems, Health & Wellbeing



Sally Hartmanis, BBMed, MPH  
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#### BIOSKETCH

Sally is a DPhil in Population Health (health economics and genomics) candidate at the University of Oxford under the supervision of Dr James Buchanan and Professor Sarah Wordsworth. Sally holds a Bachelor of Biomedicine (genetics) from the University of Melbourne and a Master of Public Health (health economics) from Monash University. Prior to starting her DPhil, Sally worked for eight years in health economics and strategy consulting, and clinical research.

#### DOCTORAL PROGRAM

Health Economics Research Centre (HERC), Nuffield Department of Population Health, University of Oxford, Oxford, United Kingdom, Expected completion in 2025  
Supervisors (roles): Dr James Buchanan, MA, DPhil (Co-supervisor); Professor Sarah Wordsworth, BSc, MSc, PhD (Co-supervisor)

#### PHD ABSTRACT

Title: Valuing the outcomes associated with genome sequencing in economic evaluations.

Background: Genomic sequencing is a revolutionary technology for screening and diagnosing disease. Internationally, several healthcare systems are considering using genome sequencing to aid disease prevention and treatment, many of which have research programs underway.

Despite this, there remains a lack of consensus among health economists regarding the evaluation method best suited to support the translation of genome sequencing into routine healthcare. The primary concern is whether existing generic multi-attribute instruments used to derive quality-adjusted life years (QALYs) are capable of measuring the full outcome set arising from genome sequencing and whether they are sufficiently sensitive to changes in these outcomes pre- and post-test. This is important due to the widespread use of these instruments within health technology assessment (HTA) frameworks internationally. If the full impact of genome sequencing is not considered in HTA decision-making, this technology may be under- or over-utilised with patients, families and health systems bearing the burden of this inefficiency through delayed diagnosis, forgone productivity, and unnecessary tests. Aims: Sally's research will fill this evidence-gap by: 1) Systematically reviewing the literature regarding the instruments used to measure the outcomes of genome sequencing, 2) Critically appraising the theoretical capacity of instruments to capture the outcomes of genome sequencing, 3) Evaluating the ability of instruments identified as having the greatest theoretical capacity of capturing the outcomes of genome sequencing, 4) Making recommendations regarding how best to evaluate the outcomes of genome sequencing and how to include this information in decision-making.

#### EUROQOL RESEARCH

Area of Interest: Valuation, Population & Health Systems, Health & Wellbeing

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## BIOSKETCH

I am PhD student at the University of Melbourne (Australia) in the Health Economics Unit. I completed a Master of Public Health and a Honors in Biomedical Science majoring in Human functional Biology, both at the University of Otago. I was awarded the population health prize as the top student during my MPH. I have worked across multiple research projects including: COVID-19 modelling in AUS/NZ, NCD surveillance systems (Thailand), TTO experiments, and sudden cardiac arrest in the young in AUS. I also have two-years of work experience in the forensic services.

## DOCTORAL PROGRAM

Health Economics Unit | Centre for Health Policy, Melbourne School of Population and Global Health, the University of Melbourne, Victoria, Australia, Expected completion in 2025  
Supervisors (roles): Kim Dalziel, PhD (Primary Supervisor); Nancy Devlin, PhD (Secondary Supervisor)

## PhD ABSTRACT

Few preference-weighted health-related quality-of-life (HR-QoL) measures exist for young children under 5 years of age. Young children are substantial consumers of healthcare services. EuroQoL's EQ-5D-Y is a commonly used preference-based instrument to generate generic health state utility scores and QALYs for children above five, however, there is limited evidence on the acceptability and reliability in children between 2-4 years of age.

Dalziel et al (unpublished) recently conducted a qualitative study where an adapted version of the EQ-5D-Y (3L and 5L) was co-designed through focus groups of parents with young children (aged 2-4) alongside expert input. The findings showed that the adapted EQ-5D-Y has improved relevance and acceptability for 2–4-year-olds and appears easy to complete.

This PhD project will firstly aim to review the psychometric properties of EQ-5D-Y-3L and EQ-5D-Y-5L compared to its most recently adapted version for young children between 2-4 years of age who are administered side by side measures. Secondly, this project aims to conduct think aloud interviews to try to uncover and explore how adults think when asked to conduct discrete-choice experiments (of the above instruments) while thinking about a young child aged 2-4 years. Further, assess whether adults with young children are more appropriate to generate a utility value set compared to the general population. Thirdly, the project aims to synthesise the information from the think aloud study to complete a valuation study of the newly adapted EQ-5D-Y-3L/5L. Finally (time permitting), this project aims to explore how we measure a child's HR-QoL as they age and transition across the suite of EuroQoL instruments – ie. Moving from EQ-TIPs (0-3) to the adapted EQ-5D-Y (2-4 years) to the EQ-5D-Y (5+).

## EUROQOL RESEARCH

A qualitative investigation to develop an adapted version of the EQ-5D-Y-3L for use in children aged 2-4 years (In submission)  
111-2020RA, (PhD student)  
361-2020RA, (PhD student)

Area of Interest: Younger Populations, Valuation, Population & Health Systems

Hannah S. Hussain, MPharm, MSc  
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### BIOSKETCH

I have a Master's of pharmacy degree, and an MSc in health economics and health policy. Before enrolling on my PhD, I worked as a research associate at the centre of health economics at the University of Manchester (MCHE). During my time at MCHE, I worked on several clinical trials, including an international multi-centre trial of a non-pharmacological intervention for people living with dementia (PlwD). I am also a registered and practicing community pharmacist. Since enrolling on my PhD at the University of Sheffield, I have concurrently worked on several wider projects, including interviewing for the new EuroQol instrument - EQ-HWB (EQ Health and Wellbeing instrument) and an internship with DementiaUK. My PhD research is focused on how best to capture EQ-5D in dementia studies for use in economic evaluations.

### DOCTORAL PROGRAM

Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health, School of Health and Related Research, University of Sheffield, , United Kingdom, Expected completion in 2024  
Supervisors (roles): Allan Wailoo, PhD (Primary supervisor); Anju Keetharuth, PhD (Supervisor); Donna Rowen, PhD (Supervisor)

### PhD ABSTRACT

EQ-5D is widely used to capture health-related quality of life, and through systematic reviewing, is shown to exhibit strong psychometric properties for use in dementia populations. However, as a person living with dementia's condition progresses, their ability to accurately self-report becomes more challenging - leading to a reliance on proxies. It is well established that PlwD-self and proxy reported EQ-5D do not align, particularly for the more "subjective" dimensions, and at the more severe stages of dementia. Therefore, the key issue is that the extent to which either proxy or patient reports reflect "true" utility is likely to differ by disease severity. Data from three existing dementia trials has been acquired for secondary data analyses. The key objectives of this PhD thesis are to: 1) produce a guideline on how best to collect quality of life data in dementia trials and studies, focusing on pragmatic factors, 2) use statistical mapping techniques to map from proxy rated EQ-5D to the equivalent PlwD-self rated values in an attempt to retain people living with dementia as central in the discussion, where self-ratings may no longer be feasible, and 3) use psychometric techniques i.e., IRT and Rasch analysis to understand which EQ-5D dimensions are responded to differently by people of different characteristics, mainly focusing on disease severity

### EUROQOL RESEARCH

Keetharuth, A.D., Hussain, H., Rowen, D. et al. Assessing the psychometric performance of EQ-5D-5L in dementia: a systematic review. *Health Qual Life Outcomes* 20, 139 (2022).  
<https://doi.org/10.1186/s12955-022-02036-3>

Hussain, Hannah, Anju Keetharuth, Donna Rowen, and Allan Wailoo. Convergent validity of EQ-5D with core outcomes in dementia: a systematic review. *Health and Quality of Life Outcomes* 20, no. 1 (2022): 1-18. <https://rdcu.be/cWx3l>

Area of Interest: Valuation, Health & Wellbeing

Ademola Joshua Itiola, B.Pharm, MPH, MSc  
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#### BIOSKETCH

Ademola is originally from Nigeria and is a pharmacist by training. He holds a Bachelor of Pharmacy Degree (with distinctions) from the University of Ibadan, Nigeria, coupled with a Master of Science Degree in Population and Public Health from The University of British Columbia, Canada, Master of Public Health Degree, and a fellowship in Public Health Pharmacy from West African Postgraduate College of Pharmacists. He is currently enrolled as a PhD student at the University of Alberta, Canada.

#### DOCTORAL PROGRAM

School of Public Health, University of Alberta, Alberta, Canada, Expected completion in 2025  
Supervisors (roles): Jeffrey Johnson, PhD (Chair)

#### PHD ABSTRACT

Many health care systems are increasingly considering the patient's voice in assessing quality of care. Like many other healthcare interventions, knee replacement surgery is one of the procedures where patient-reported outcomes are more and more important. Osteoarthritis, the major reason for knee replacement surgery, affects over 15% of Canadians, mostly women, the elderly, and low-income earners. Of patients with osteoarthritis, nearly one in five will require surgery. However, almost one-third of individuals who have surgery will be dissatisfied with their outcomes partly due to unmet expectations. To help patients make better decisions, and ensure realistic expectations before surgery, an individualized patient decision aid that considers patients' perspectives has been developed. Patients who used this decision aid have been shown to have twice the odds of making quality decisions than those who did not. Plans are now underway to integrate this decision aid into all bone and joint clinics in Alberta. However, it is unknown if the decision aid is suitable for large-scale routine use in its current form. Also, further evidence of its effectiveness is required to justify its continued routine use and potential scale up to other jurisdictions in Canada and beyond. To bridge this evidence gap, my research aims first to generate updated evidence on the effectiveness of measures that consider patients' assessment of their health in improving the quality of care. The updated decision aid will be subjected to usability testing to determine if further adaptation is needed. Lastly, the effectiveness of the decision aid will be evaluated once introduced into large-scale routine care. Overall, this research will provide evidence on quality-of-care domains mostly impacted by measures that consider patients' health assessment and how effectiveness studies can be improved. Findings will also inform a fit-for-routine-use decision aid and can inform the scale-up of the decision.

#### EUROQOL RESEARCH

Area of Interest: Valuation, Population & Health Systems, Education & Outreach, Health & Wellbeing

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## BIOSKETCH

As a PhD student at Flinders University, Australia, I am investigating proxy vs child discrepancies in the measurement of paediatric health related quality of life (HRQoL) and the self-report capacity in children using generic preference-based instruments including the EQ-5D-Y-3L. Prior to this, I completed my master's degree in Health Economics at the University of Queensland (UQ) with high distinction. Working as a Research Assistant has been a part of my past and present work experience.

## DOCTORAL PROGRAM

Caring Futures Institute, College of Nursing and Health Sciences, Flinders University, SA, Australia, Expected completion in 2023

Supervisors (roles): Julie Ratcliffe, BA (Hons), MSc, PhD (Professor, Health Economics); Jyoti Khadka, B Opt, M Phil, PhD (Senior Research Fellow); Christine Mpundu-Kaambwa, BA, MSc, PhD (Research Fellow)

## PhD ABSTRACT

Background: In health economics, generic preference based HRQoL instruments are commonly applied and self-assessment of HRQoL by the person themselves is preferred wherever possible. However, obtaining valid self-assessments of HRQoL in paediatric populations is challenging, particularly during the early stages of childhood and for children with a range of physical, intellectual and/or behavioural impairments. As a result, proxy (parent and/or healthcare professional) assessments of HRQoL are frequently utilised instead of child self-assessments. Aims: This research will apply a novel mixed methods approach incorporating qualitative think aloud and a quantitative eye tracking approach to investigate: [1] the feasibility and acceptability of child self-assessment of HRQoL for a community-based sample of children aged 6-12 years [2] the concordance between child self and parent proxy assessments of childhood HRQoL using three generic HRQoL measures designed for application in paediatric populations including the EQ-5D-Y-3 L. Methods: A primary cross-sectional study will be conducted through a series of face-to-face semi-structured interviews with parent and child dyads (ages 6-12; N=85 dyads) including children living with and without a variety of health conditions and children from lower and higher socio-economic backgrounds. A mixed methods approach will be developed and applied to facilitate a detailed investigation of the feasibility and acceptability of child self-assessment of HRQoL and the level of child and parental agreement in the measurement of the HRQoL of the child using innovative eye-tracking technology and a qualitative 'think aloud' approach. Outcomes: This research will add significant new knowledge and contribute to methods of best practice and guidance for informing self and proxy assessment of children's HRQoL for economic evaluation and quality assessment.

## EUROQOL RESEARCH

Khanna, D., Khadka, J., Mpundu-Kaambwa, C. et al. Are We Agreed? Self- Versus Proxy-Reporting of Paediatric Health-Related Quality of Life (HRQoL) Using Generic Preference-Based Measures: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis. *PharmacoEconomics* 40, 1043–1067 (2022). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40273-022-01177-z>

Area of Interest: Descriptive Systems, Younger Populations

Yiting Luo, MPH, BS  
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#### BIOSKETCH

Yiting Luo is currently a PhD student in the Centre for Health Economics Research and Evaluation at University of Technology Sydney. She has a Master of Public Health degree specializing in Applied Biostatistics from Columbia University and had been working as an epidemiologist focused on chronic diseases prevention from 2018 to 2020. Her research interests are measurement and valuation of pediatric health-related quality of life and discrete choice experiments (DCEs).

#### DOCTORAL PROGRAM

Centre for Health Economics Research and Evaluation, Faculty of Health , University of Technology Sydney , New South Wales , Australia, Expected completion in 2025  
Supervisors (roles): Brendan Mulhern, PhD (Associate Professor); Deborah Street, PhD (Professor); Rosalie Viney, PhD (Director, Professor )

#### PHD ABSTRACT

Conventional methods of valuing adult preference-based measures need to be adapted for use in the valuation of pediatric generic preference-based measures (GPBMs). Methodological issues have been discussed in many literatures around how to value pediatric preference-based measures, for example, whose preferences (child/adolescent, parent, or taxpayer), what appropriate formats for the questionnaire are, and which perspectives should be used (self or other). Further work is required to understand this, and also the ability of the target population to comprehend and complete the valuation tasks. The aim of the PhD project is to explore how pediatric populations choose between various aspects of health as included in a number of widely used GPBMs. This will be done using online Discrete Choice Experiments (DCEs). Results will help to strengthen the tools used to evaluate health outcomes to inform healthcare decision-making in pediatric populations. The PhD project is part of the QUality OF Life in Kids: Key evidence to strengthen decisions in Australia (QUOKKA) program.

#### EUROQOL RESEARCH

Yiting Luo, Brendan Mulhern, Richard Norman, Deborah Street, Rosalie Viney. POB4 Effect of demographic characteristics on health states valuation based on TTO and DCE  
Yiting Luo, Brendan Mulhern, Richard Norman, Deborah Street, Rosalie Viney. POC1 How have qualitative methods been used to understand the valuation of preference-based measures? A scoping review

Area of Interest: Valuation, Younger Populations

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#### BIOSKETCH

Jonathan Nazari is a PhD student in the Department of Pharmacy Systems, Outcomes, and Policy at the University of Illinois Chicago (UIC) and 2021-2023 UIC/Pfizer fellow in health economics and outcomes research. His research interests include measurement of health related quality of life and other health outcomes, including in pediatric populations. He previously earned his doctor of pharmacy (PharmD) and Bachelor of Science (BS) in Biochemistry degrees from UIC.

#### DOCTORAL PROGRAM

Pharmacy Systems, Outcomes, and Policy, College of Pharmacy, University of Illinois Chicago, Illinois, USA, Expected completion in 2025

Supervisors (roles): A. Simon Pickard, PhD (Advisor and Chair), Ning Yan Gu, PhD (Committee Member)

#### PHD ABSTRACT

I am currently a co-investigator for the EQ-5D-Y-3L valuation study in the US (Co-PIs: Simon Pickard and Ning Yan Gu; #409-RA). I presented our preliminary work of engaging US stakeholders in a roundtable discussion at the 2022 Plenary meeting. Relatedly, I am investigating data quality and sources of preference heterogeneity among adolescent respondents to DCE valuation tasks. I am also interested in alternative approaches to anchoring DCE-derived latent scale values onto the QALY scale, including alternative preference elicitation methods to cTTO in valuing child and adolescent health related quality of life. This research has implications for end-users of EQ-5D-Y-3L value sets in the context of economic evaluation and health technology assessment, and may inform valuation protocols for future youth instruments.

#### EUROQOL RESEARCH

Nazari, J.L., Pickard, A.S. & Gu, N.Y. Findings from a Roundtable Discussion with US Stakeholders on Valuation of the EQ-5D-Y-3L. *PharmacoEconomics* (2022).

<https://doi.org/10.1007/s40273-022-01222-x>

Nazari, J.L., Kuharic, M, Pickard, A.S. PCR163 Determination of the Ideal Number of Response Levels for the EQ-5D As a US Population Health Measure. *Value in Health*, Volume 25, Issue 7, S572/

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jval.2022.04.1506>

409-RA: Developing a value set for the EQ-5D-Y-3L in the United States , Co-Investigator

Area of Interest: Descriptive Systems, Valuation, Younger Populations

Rachel O'Loughlin, BCom GDipPsy GDipPsy(Adv)  
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### BIOSKETCH

I am a PhD Candidate in the Health Economics Unit, University of Melbourne. Prior to this I worked in the Health Services Research Unit at the Murdoch Children's Research Institute. I hold a Bachelor degree in Commerce, and graduate degrees in Psychology. My research interests include the complexities of measuring children's health-related quality of life, particularly in the context of mental health challenges; and how we define and measure the value of changes in children's mental healthcare.

### DOCTORAL PROGRAM

Health Economics Unit, School of Population and Global Health, University of Melbourne, Victoria, Australia, Expected completion in 2024;  
Supervisors (roles): Prof Kim Dalziel, PhD (Primary Supervisor); Prof Nancy Devlin, PhD (Co-Supervisor); Prof Harriet Hiscock, MD (Co-Supervisor); Dr Tessa Peasgood, PhD (Advisory Committee Chair); Prof Gary Freed, MD (Advisory Committee Member); Prof Lisa Prosser, PhD (Advisory Committee Member)

### PhD ABSTRACT

Adult QALYs are widely generated, used and accepted in healthcare decision-making, however this is not the case for children. Much of children's healthcare decision-making – both internationally and in Australia – relies on adult-based evidence. Specifically, in children's mental healthcare, there is a lack of health-related quality of life (HRQoL) data to support evaluations of the effectiveness of interventions, despite calls for the routine collection of these data. This lack of evidence ultimately risks a misallocation of vital healthcare funding. However, before we can routinely, validly and reliably measure HRQoL in child and adolescent mental health settings, there are several key challenges and evidence gaps that must be faced. Not least of these challenges is the question of whether HRQoL data – and the traditional definition of value based on costs and QALYs – is sufficient and appropriate to understand the value of children's mental healthcare, or whether there are other, potentially more important, outcomes that should define 'value' in this context. Three key aims of my work, relevant to the EuroQoL Group are: (1) exploring the validity and reliability of different preference based HRQoL measures (including the EQ-5D and EQ-5D-Y) in children and adolescents with mental health challenges; (2) exploring the extent of the conceptual and measurement overlap between measures of HRQoL and measures of mental health symptoms; and (3) understanding the 'value' of mental health interventions based on the priorities of consumers and carers. With relevance for the EuroQoL group, I ultimately aim to contribute to contemporary debates by providing information that is relevant to health policy, clinical decision making and patient outcomes research, in terms of how we best define value in children's mental healthcare, and how we best measure HRQoL in children and adolescents with mental health challenges.

### EUROQOL RESEARCH

Jones R, Mulhern B, McGregor K, Yip S, O'Loughlin R, Devlin N, Hiscock H, Dalziel K, et al. Psychometric Performance of HRQoL Measures: An Australian Paediatric Multi-Instrument Comparison Study Protocol (P-MIC). *Children*. 2021; 8(8):714.

<https://doi.org/10.3390/children8080714>

Area of Interest: Descriptive Systems, Population & Health Systems, Younger Populations



Irene Salvi, MSc  
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#### BIOSKETCH

Irene Salvi is a PhD candidate and research assistant at the Chair of Health Care Management of the University of St. Gallen. After completing her Master degree in Economic and Social Sciences at Bocconi University, she worked as Health Economics intern and subsequently joined the Market Access & HEOR team at a Swiss dermatological company as Pricing Analyst. Her research interests are health economics modelling and health technology assessment, patient reported outcomes research, health policy.

#### DOCTORAL PROGRAM

Chair of Health Care Management, School of Medicine, University of St. Gallen, St. Gallen, Switzerland, Expected completion in 2024

Supervisors (roles): Alexander Geissler, Prof. (Chair Holder); Justus Vogel, Dr. (Postdoc); David Kuklinski, Dr. (Postdoc)

#### PHD ABSTRACT

A dashboard is a data-driven clinical decision support tool capable of querying multiple databases and providing a visual representation of key performance indicators in a single report. The use of PROMs in clinical dashboards supports the clinician's understanding of how treatments impact symptoms scores and it enables the identification of health-related quality of life (HRQoL) deterioration or improvement at an early stage. In the previous literature, mostly the benefit of using disease-specific PROMs in combination with clinical dashboards has been highlighted. In the context of this research area, the EQ-5D has only rarely been used. To fill this gap, this project aims to evaluate the success factors of the design principles concerning clinical dashboards including generic – i.e., the EQ-5D – and disease-specific PROMs. To evaluate differences in the clinical dashboards' requirements for specific disease areas, the investigation of the clinical dash-board's potential is focused on a one-time intervention (i.e., hip and knee arthroplasty) and the long-term management of a chronic disease (i.e., COPD). To investigate the research question, a literature review is conducted to shed on light on focus aspects for the subsequent expert interviews. The findings from the prior steps will be used for the development of prototypes, which finally will be discussed by focus groups. The contribution of this research project is threefold: first, the elaboration of the success factors of clinical dashboards based on a literature review and expert interviews; second, the inclusion of the EQ-5D in combination with disease-specific PROMs into the dashboard, with a design that enhances the clinician's understanding of the patient's health status; third, the development of prototypes for both the one-time intervention and the chronic disease case and their evaluation in the focus groups, which will form the basis for building and developing the future "real" clinical dashboards.

#### EUROQOL RESEARCH

301-SG: Crafting and elaborating the potential of clinical dashboards incorporating PROMs ,  
Co-Principal Investigator

Area of Interest: Population & Health Systems, Health & Wellbeing

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#### BIOSKETCH

Haode Wang is a PhD student in the School of Health and Related Research (SchHARR), University of Sheffield, UK. Haode completed his MSc Health Economics education at the University of York and his Bachelor of Arts education at Huazhong University of Science and Technology, China. His research focuses on valuing health and well-being using the Discrete Choice Experiment (DCEs) method.

#### DOCTORAL PROGRAM

School of Health and Related Research (SchHARR), Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health, University of Sheffield, England, United Kingdom, Expected completion in 2024  
Supervisors (roles): Donna Rowen, PhD (1st supervisor); John Brazier, PhD (2nd supervisor); Clara Mukuria, PhD (3rd supervisor)

#### PhD ABSTRACT

Widening the classification system of preference-based measures to capture aspects beyond health becomes a focus of research. The newly developed measure EQ-HWB and EQ-HWB-S are representatives. However, measures with a larger number of attributes present challenges for the valuation methods used to elicit the value set. Participants and researchers need to consider the cognitive burden caused by the large amount of information presented. Although not fully tested with the EQ-HWB measure, the DCE method has been considered a feasible option to meet the valuation challenges raised. The method has been used in published valuation studies with large number of attributes and classification systems including overlapping concepts. The PhD project intends to further discuss its feasibility with EQ-HWB measure. The study consists of three parts: 1) Literature review of DCE valuation methods. 2) Qualitative study to finalize the DCE design and presentation method. 3) The pilot and large-scale DCE survey with the UK and Australian samples. This study will contribute to the DCE methodological development in the field of health state valuation, as well as instruct future EQ-HWB valuation studies in other countries.

#### EUROQOL RESEARCH

Area of Interest: Descriptive Systems, Valuation, Health & Wellbeing

Jiabi Wen, MSc  
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#### BIOSKETCH

Jiabi Wen is a Ph.D. student at the University of Alberta and a research trainee at the Alberta PROMs and EQ-5D Research and Support Unit (APERSU). She obtained her MSc degree in Health Policy Research at the University of Alberta in 2020 and her BSc (Math) and BEcon (Economics) degrees from the Renmin University of China in 2018. Her research interests include economic evaluation and quality of life measures, particularly EQ-5D. Her Master's thesis focused on mapping for the EQ-5D-5L. In her Ph.D. studies, she is working on her thesis on the economic evaluation of wastewater surveillance. She is also involved in several EQ-5D-related projects at APERSU, including the validation of the EQ-5D-Y-5L among children with juvenile idiopathic arthritis.

#### DOCTORAL PROGRAM

Health Services and Policy Research, School of Public Health, University of Alberta, Alberta, Canada, Expected completion in 2024  
Supervisors (roles): Arto Ohinmaa, PhD (Supervisor), Jeffrey A. Johnson, PhD (Co-supervisor)

#### PHD ABSTRACT

**Background** Juvenile idiopathic arthritis (JIA) is the most common type of arthritis among children, and it can cause permanent physical damage to joints, affecting mobility, pain and daily activities. The 3-level self-reported version of EQ-5D-Y has been validated in patients with JIA, but the validity of the 5-level version remains unknown. **Objectives** Our first aim is to examine the performance of the EQ-5D-Y-5L parent-proxy version among children with JIA in terms of construct validity and informativity. Our second aim is to evaluate the responsiveness of the EQ-5D-Y-5L, and in particular, its ability to capture important effects of pain and function levels experienced by children with JIA. **Proposed methods** We will use data from the UCAN CAN-DU (Canada-Netherlands Personalized Medicine Network in Childhood Arthritis and Rheumatic Disease) study cohort, which includes patients with new-onset JIA, those starting or stopping biologics, and patients with hard-to-treat JIA. Patients in this cohort have a baseline visit and a follow-up visit (either six-month or twelve-month). **Demographics, clinical outcomes, medical history, the parent-proxy version of the childhood health assessment questionnaire (CHAQ), the parent-proxy version of the EQ-5D-Y-5L, and the global rating of change scale (only at follow-up visits) are collected. We will use data from the baseline visit to examine the construct validity and informativity and data from both the baseline and follow-up visits to examine the responsiveness. Future research or innovations** This validation study will help establish the validity of EQ-5D-Y-5L among children with JIA, providing evidence that the EQ-5D-Y-5L is appropriate for use among younger populations. This study will ultimately inform research that measures the quality of life impact of JIA and identifies treatments that improve the quality of life of these children.

#### EUROQOL RESEARCH

Wen, J., Jin, X., Al Sayah, F. et al. Mapping the Edmonton Symptom Assessment System-Revised: Renal to the EQ-5D-5L in patients with chronic kidney disease. *Qual Life Res* 31, 567–577 (2022). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11136-021-02948-5>  
Wen, J., Al Sayah, F., Simon, R. et al. Self-reported health-related quality of life of the general population in Alberta, Canada during the COVID-19 pandemic. *J Patient Rep Outcomes* 6, 109 (2022). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s41687-022-00518-y>

Area of Interest: Population & Health Systems, Younger Populations

Xin Zhang, MSN  
x.zhang@umcg.nl (pronouns: she/her/hers), The Netherlands

#### BIOSKETCH

Xin Zhang is currently working as a Ph.D. student in the unit of Health Technique Assessment, at the University Medical Center Groningen (UMCG), the Netherlands, supervised by Dr. Paul Krabbe. Their research focuses on health outcome measures. Xin earned her Bachelor's and Master's degree in nursing science in China, from Nanjing University Traditional Chinese Medicine and Peking University, respectively. Her research interests are related to gerontological nursing and health outcome measures.

#### DOCTORAL PROGRAM

Epidemiology, University Medical Center Groningen, University of Groningen, Groningen, Netherlands, Expected completion in 2023  
Supervisors (roles): Paul Krabbe, PhD (Supervisor); Karin Vermeulen, PhD (Second supervisor)

#### PHD ABSTRACT

Background: Patient-reported outcome measures (PROMs) play an important role in measuring health-related quality of life (HRQoL), and further add advancement to health care. However, some concerns remain in many of the current PROMs, which can limit the accuracy and validity of these PROMs. These concerns include, for example, the content of items of the PROMs are not selected by patients but by experts, some important health items are not appropriately captured by the PROMs descriptive system, valuation techniques and statistical models used to process the responses from these techniques are complex and sensitive for biases. Some of these concerns may also exist in the most widely used generic PROM EQ-5D. A novel measurement model (multi-attribute preference response, MAPR) has been developed, based on this model, several patient-centered and preference-based PROMs were developed. Aims: Validating and improving new PROMs by applying them in the population study and comparing them head-to-head with EQ-5D. Methods: The MAPR model was used to develop PROMs, it is a probabilistic choice model that combines the Rasch model (item response theory) and the discrete choice model. PROMs within MAPR model: 1) CS-Base, generic PROM: 2) PUF-ULP, for patients using hand prosthesis; 3) Cardiovascular PROM, for patients with cardiovascular diseases. Samples: for different PROMs, we conducted studies among different populations. The CS-Base PROM was applied among USA patients with various diseases, the PUF-ULP PROM was applied among prosthesis users in the Netherlands. The Cardiovascular PROM was applied among Dutch patients with cardiovascular diseases. Study design: we applied PROMs developed within the MAPR model and EQ-5D among the same respondents in each study, comparing their performance in measuring HRQoL head-to-head, in aspects of the range of health items captured, the precision of coefficients, the sufficiency of description and discrimination of health states.

#### EUROQOL RESEARCH

Area of Interest: Descriptive Systems, Valuation, Population & Health Systems, Health & Wellbeing

## **NEW MEMBERS AS OF APRIL 2023 (N=15)**

Caique de Melo do Espirito Santo

caiquemelo.fisio@gmail.com (pronouns: he/him/his), Brazil

### **BIOSKETCH**

Caique finished his bachelor's degree in physical therapy in 2015 and has been a PhD student since 2020 under a scholarship from the Sao Paulo Research Foundation. He also was the Scientific Director of the League of Studies in Orthopedic and Traumatological Physiotherapy at the UNITAU. He has research interests on the measurement properties, systematic reviews and EQ-5D instruments.

### **DOCTORAL PROGRAM**

Master's and Doctoral Programs in Physical Therapy, Universidade Cidade de São Paulo, Universidade Cidade de São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil, Expected completion in 2023

Supervisors (roles): Tiê Parma Yamato, PhD, Gisela Cristiane Miyamoto, PhD, Aureliano Finch, PhD, Marisa Santos, PhD

### **PHD ABSTRACT**

In Brazil, the measurement properties of the EQ-5D-Y instruments have not been tested in children and adolescents yet. Furthermore, there is no value set of the EQ-5D-Y-3L for Brazilian children and adolescents. A validation study (below) tested and compared the measurement properties of the instruments EQ-5D-Y-3L and EQ-5D-Y-5L with 350 children and adolescents (n=150 with and n=150 without disabling musculoskeletal pain). We tested reliability, construct validity (convergent validity) and known-group validity. We also assessed feasibility and floor and ceiling effects. A systematic review (PROSPERO [CRD42020218382]) was conducted to summarise the evidence on the measurement properties of the EQ-5D instruments in children and adolescents. We included studies that used one or more EQ-5D instruments in children and adolescents up to 19 years old and that tested at least one measurement property. The assessment of risk of bias, quality criteria and evidence quality followed the COnsensus-based Standards for the selection of health Measurement INstruments (COSMIN). A valuation study (below) is ongoing to develop the national value set of the EQ-5D-Y-3L instrument for Brazilian children and adolescents. The study allows to generate the value set for the 243 health states of the EQ-5D-Y-3L based on a representative sample in Brazil. The data were collected from a sample of adults from the general population, and they responded considering their perspective as a 10-year-old child. We included 1,000 adults to an online survey discrete choice experiment in order to obtain the importance of each EQ-5D-Y-3L dimensions and levels, and 200 adults (from Sao Paulo, Rio Grande do Sul, and Ceara, representing southeast, south and northeast, respectively) to a face-to-face composite time-trade-off in order to obtain anchored utility values.

### **EUROQOL RESEARCH**

220-VS, National value set for the EQ-5D-Y-3L in Brazil, PhD student

218-RA, Analysis of the measurement properties of the Brazilian-Portuguese version of the HRQoL instruments EQ-5D-Y-3L and EQ-5D-Y-5L in children and adolescents, PhD student

Area of Interest: Valuation, Younger Populations, Education & Outreach  
Ava Fee Helena Hoogenboom, BSc  
hoogenboom@eshpm.eur.nl (pronouns: she/her/hers), Netherlands

#### BIOSKETCH

After obtaining my BSc in Health Sciences, I moved on to be a MSc student in European Health Economics and Management with a specialization in Economic Evaluation. This master's program brought me to the University of Bologna, the Erasmus University of Rotterdam and the University of Oslo. I am currently a doctoral student at the Health Economics department of Erasmus School of Health Policy and Management (ESHPM) at Erasmus University Rotterdam.

#### DOCTORAL PROGRAM

Health Economics, Erasmus School of Health Policy and Management, Erasmus University Rotterdam, , Netherlands, Expected completion in 2027  
Supervisors (roles): Werner Brouwer, PhD (Supervisor) [brouwer@eshpm.eur.nl](mailto:brouwer@eshpm.eur.nl); Vivian Reckers-Droog, PhD (Co-supervisor) [reckers@eshpm.eur.nl](mailto:reckers@eshpm.eur.nl); Stefan Lipman, PhD (Co-supervisor) [lipman@eshpm.eur.nl](mailto:lipman@eshpm.eur.nl)

#### PHD ABSTRACT

The aim of my PhD project is to examine the desirability, feasibility, and impact of involving children in the valuation of EQ-5D-Y health states. We will explore the theoretical/normative and empirical underpinning of involving stakeholders, in particular children, in decisions in health and healthcare. Furthermore, the project will focus on whether and why child and adult members of the public, and policymakers in healthcare believe that involving children in the valuation of EQ-5D-Y health states would be desirable and feasible. Research will be conducted on the various ways in which children can potentially be involved in the valuation of EQ-5D-Y health states and the impact of such involvement on the value of health states.

#### EUROQOL RESEARCH

1462-PHD Involving children in the valuation of EQ-5D-Y health states  
Area of Interest: Descriptive Systems, Valuation, Younger Populations, Health & Wellbeing

Zhongyu (Winston) Lang, MSc  
76155lzh@eur.nl (pronouns: he/him/his), Netherlands

## BIOSKETCH

My name is (Winston) Zhongyu Lang, a third-year Ph.D. student at Erasmus University Rotterdam. Prior to pursuing my Ph.D., I had a background in pharmacy and public health. As for work experience, I interned in the marketing departments of both Johnson & Johnson and Pfizer. My current research interest is the utility gap between the child perspective and the adult perspective during health state valuation.

## DOCTORAL PROGRAM

Health Economics, Erasmus School of Health Policy and Management , Erasmus University Rotterdam, Zuid Holland, Netherlands, Expected completion in 2024  
Supervisors (roles): Arthur Attema, Werner Brouwer

## PHD ABSTRACT

Composite time trade-off (cTTO) utilities have been found to be higher when adults value health states for children than for themselves. It is not clear if these differences reflect adults assigning truly higher utilities to the same health state in different perspectives, or if they are caused by other factors, which are not accounted for in the valuation procedure. One research has been granted by EuroQol, which aims to test if the difference between children's and adults' cTTO valuations changes if a longer duration than the standard 10 years is used. We intend to conduct personal interviews with a representative sample of 150 adults in the UK were conducted. We employ the cTTO method to estimate utilities of four different health states, where adults consider states both from their own and a 10-year-old child's perspective, for durations of 10 and 20 years. We also correct the cTTO valuations for perspective-specific time preferences in a separate task, again for both perspectives.

## EUROQOL RESEARCH

EQ Project 236-2020RA: QALYs or equity weights? The influence of differences between health state utilities for children and adults on priority setting. Second author  
EQ Project 237-RA: The effect of duration and time preference on the gap between adult and child health state valuations in time trade-off. First author  
Area of Interest: Descriptive Systems, Valuation, Younger Populations

Clement Cheuk Wai Ng, MPH, BSc in PBH  
clementcwng@cuhk.edu.hk (pronouns: he/him/his), Hong Kong SAR

#### BIOSKETCH

Mr. Ng is currently a PhD Candidate in The Chinese University of Hong Kong who has recently passed his Viva Voce with his thesis 'Development and Testing Potential Bolt-on Item for the EQ-5D-5L Hong Kong'. With his interests in Health-related Quality of Life (HRQoL), his work focused on the development of EQ-5D cultural or community-specific bolt-on dimensions, and exploring alternative methods to examine the benefits imposed by the additional dimensions. He had trialled the application of Analytical Hierarchy Process in EQ-5D bolt-on testing in his thesis and he is the Co-Principal Investigator of the EuroQol funded project (211-RA). Besides HRQoL, his research interests also extend to health economics and multi-criteria decision analysis, and he is now a Committee Member of the ISPOR Student Network.

#### DOCTORAL PROGRAM

Centre for Health Systems and Policy Research, Jockey Club School of Public Health and Primary Care, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong SAR, Hong Kong SAR, China, Expected completion in 2023. Supervisors (roles): Zhihao Yang, PhD (Thesis Committee External Examiner) zhihao\_yang\_cn@126.com

#### PHD ABSTRACT

Background Health utility is widely used as a measurement in healthcare service and health economics. However, studies suggested that current designs of the EuroQol-5D (EQ-5D) instruments may not be sensitive to community characteristics or cultural variations. A possible solution to address the limitations is to introduce bolt-on dimensions. The research targets to develop potential bolt-on dimensions to enrich EQ-5D-5L Hong Kong while the compatibility of the new attribute and the variations in attribute weighting were explored. The thesis aimed to explore the comprehensiveness of the current EQ-5D-5L instrument in Hong Kong and the effect of enhancement imposed by introducing bolt-on dimension. Methodology A sequential mixed methodology was adopted. Secondary data analysis was used to examine if the ceiling effect could be observed in local data. A qualitative interview was conducted to explore potential bolt-on dimensions in Hong Kong based on a list of bolt-on dimensions extracted from past literature and other existing HRQoL preference-based tools. Based on qualitative findings, a quantitative cross-sectional survey was collected to test if the bolt-on dimension is appropriate in local context. With the quantitative responses, regressions were modeled to test the impact of the potential bolt-on dimension. Analytic Hierarchy Process (AHP) and psychometric analysis were conducted to explore the compatibility and validity of the potential bolt-on dimensions. Relevance and Future Research The thesis holds a matching objective with the EQ-5D 'Descriptive Systems' workgroup. The introduction of bolt-on could account for the patient's perception and cultural variation of the target community. The introduction of potential bolt-on dimensions may lower the ceiling effect while improving the comprehensiveness of the current instrument. The pioneer application of AHP demonstrates the potential of applying AHP in future health state valuation and economic evaluations.

#### EUROQOL RESEARCH

211-RA: Methodology Comparison between Analytical Hierarchy Process (AHP) and Discrete Choice Experiment (DCE) in EQ-5D Health State Valuation in Hong Kong, Co-PI  
Area of Interest: Descriptive Systems, Younger Populations, Health & Wellbeing



Liisa Maija Penttinen, MSc  
liisa.penttinen@thl.fi (pronouns: she/her/hers), Finland

## BIOSKETCH

My academic background is in Health Sciences. I have a master's degree in Science (Health Care) from the University of Eastern Finland, UEF (2017) and a bachelor's degree in physical therapy (2004). Since 2017, I have been working for the Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare (THL). I work as a Senior Planning Officer and my work includes coordinating a national TOIMIA network that updates all the information on our TOIMIA functioning measures database.. I'm also coordinating the process of defining one generic patient-reported outcome measure (PROM) for Finnish National Quality Registers. My research interests include especially different generic PROMs in assessing the effectiveness of health care interventions; what are the pros and cons of different generic PROMs? I also have interest in measurement properties i.e. psychometrics of the measurement instruments.

## DOCTORAL PROGRAM

Faculty of Health Sciences, Institute of Clinical Medicine, University of Eastern Finland (UEF), Kuopio, Finland, Expected completion in 2027; Supervisors (roles): Janne Martikainen, PhD (Professor); Paulus Torkki, PhD (Associate Professor)

## PHD ABSTRACT

The tightening financial situation in Finland's health and social care sector, as well as the need of the professionals, are constantly hot topics in the speeches of decision-makers and in the general media. We are faced with an inevitable question: if the money and staff are not enough for everything, how do we choose the interventions for which the resources are used? The information collected by the quality of life (QoL) instrument alone cannot be used as a basis for prioritization, but it offers one more tool in the toolbox that aims to improve the quality and effectiveness of healthcare interventions. In Finland, many generic PROMs are being used and no national, uniform policy has been made. Certain QoL measures (i.e. generic PROMs) enable the calculation of quality-adjusted life years and provide us with information on how the intervention is reflected in the patient's or client's QoL. Disease-specific instruments capture usually more in-depth information on patient's symptoms or health issues yet generic instruments allow comparisons between patient groups and thus are often preferred in health economics. In this dissertation, the differences and similarities of certain generic PROMs are examined, and the new Finnish population reference values for one of the most used generic PROMs are drawn up. Research articles 1. Finnish Population Reference Values for EQ-5D-5L using Danish Value set 2. The differences and similarities between different generic PROM tools; EQ-5D-5L, PROMIS Global Health and Overall Well-being – how do certain health states or individual's lifestyle reflect to absence from work due to a health problem? 3. Does the QoL differ between people with or without disabilities? Which underlying factors affect individual's QoL the most (EQ-5D-5L and EuroHIS-8)? 4. New Finnish Value Set for EQ-5D-5L (tentative)

## EUROQOL RESEARCH

Area of Interest: Population & Health Systems, Health & Wellbeing

Lilla Roy, MSc, BScN  
lroy@ualberta.ca (pronouns: she/her/hers), Canada

## BIOSKETCH

My name is Lilla. I am of mixed settler ancestry, and live and work between Mi'kma'ki (Nova Scotia, Canada) and Treaty 6 territory (Edmonton, Canada) where I am a PhD candidate in the School of Public Health (Health Services & Policy Research, University of Alberta). I studied nursing (Laurentian University, 2008), and have experience in emergency and general nursing in urban, rural, and remote contexts. I completed a Master of Science (University of British Columbia, 2013) and worked as a research assistant before returning to clinical nursing (2015) and nurse education (2017). My research experience is increasingly community-based and relationally focused on health needs of underserved populations. In my PhD, as a non-Indigenous person, I wish to contribute to the decolonization of current health systems exploring how current (western-derived) measures, such as the EQ-5D, relate to Indigenous worldview and to what degree they measure health for Indigenous people.

## DOCTORAL PROGRAM

School of Public Health, University of Alberta, Alberta, Canada, Expected completion in 2024  
Supervisors (roles): Jeff Johnson, PhD (Supervisor); Fatima Al Sayah, PhD (Committee Member); Susan Chatwood, PhD (Committee Member)

## PHD ABSTRACT

**Background.** In many countries, there are calls to address health inequalities experienced by Indigenous people. Indirect generic preference-based measures (PBMs) of health-related quality of life (HRQL), such as the EQ-5D, provide a measurement of individual's or populations' health and can support resource allocation decisions. However, the usefulness of any PBM is partially contingent on the appropriateness of the measure for the population in which it is used. Indigenous people conceptualize health differently than traditional biomedical models of health, so it is important to assess validity and reliability of PBMs in Indigenous populations. **Objectives.** 1) systematically examine the use of PBM in Indigenous people, 2) explore face and content validity of the EQ-5D-5L and interpretation of traditional choice-based health valuation tasks for Indigenous people, and 3) examine stated preferences for attributes of health based on the EQ-5D-5L descriptive system and compare how preferences differ from non-Indigenous people. **Proposed Methods.** I propose mixed methods, informed by a systematic review on the application, development, and performance of PBM in Indigenous people. We will engage Indigenous people as respected members of the study team. Face and content validity of the EQ-5D-5L and interpretation of traditional stated choice and health valuation tasks will be explored using a qualitative and think-aloud approach, followed by exploration of stated preferences to explore differences between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people.

## EUROQOL RESEARCH

216-2020RA: Exploring validity of the EQ-5D-5L for Indigenous people of Canada, Co-applicant (PhD student)

Area of Interest: Descriptive Systems, Valuation, Population & Health Systems

Maikhone Vilakhamxay  
maikhone@yahoo.com (pronouns: he/him/his), Lao PDR

#### BIOSKETCH

I have a bachelor's degree majoring in pharmaceutical sciences from the Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Health Sciences Lao PDR, and a master's degree in Advanced Drug Delivery Systems from Tianjin University of Traditional Chinese Medicine China. Before commencing my Ph.D., I have been working as a junior lecturer for the Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Health Sciences Lao PDR. Therefore, my Ph.D. research focuses on "Validating two Health-Related Quality-of-Life instruments for use in health technology assessment of interventions for stunted children in Laos"

#### DOCTORAL PROGRAM

The Faculty of Pharmacy, Social and Administrative Pharmacy, Silpakhorn University, Nakhorn Patom, Kingdom of Thailand, Expected completion in 2025

Supervisors (roles): Nan Luo, Main Thesis Advisor; Mayfong Mayxay, Co-Investigator; Elizabeth Ashley, Co-Investigator; Yot Teerawattananon, Co-Investigator; Sanyalack Saysanasongkham, Collaborator; Michael Herdman, Collaborator

#### PHD ABSTRACT

The project aims to develop the EuroQol Group's child-friendly EQ-5D (EQ-5D-Y) and Toddler and Infant Population Scale (EQ-TIPS), two generic health-related quality of life (HRQoL) instruments, for use in stunted children in Laos. The overall aim is to localize the two instruments for assessment of the health burden related to stunting in Laos. The specific objectives are: 1. To develop a Lao version of the EQ-5D-Y questionnaire for use by proxies; 2. To assess the content validity of EQ-5D-Y and EQ-TIPS for measuring the HRQoL of Lao children under the age of 5; 3. To investigate construct validity and test-retest reliability of EQ-5D-Y and EQ-TIPS among parents of stunted children under the age of 5;

#### EUROQOL RESEARCH

Area of Interest: Descriptive Systems, Valuation, Population & Health Systems, Younger Populations, Health & Wellbeing

## APPENDIX

### EuroQol PhD Network Code of Conduct

Version 1.0 - 10 January 2022

The *EuroQol PhD Network* is committed to providing a safe, inclusive, welcoming, and harassment-free experience for everyone. We try to cultivate a community with shared values, where people are comfortable exploring ideas, asking questions, and saying things like “I don’t understand” or “Why”. There are no stupid questions.

**Be considerate** in speech and actions. Actively seek to acknowledge and respect the boundaries of people who participate in our activities. Refrain from demeaning, discriminatory, or harassing behavior and speech. Assume competence in the people you interact with.

**Take care of each other.** Alert the co-chairs (e.g., *Joshua M. Bonsel*, *Benjamin M. Craig*) if you notice a dangerous situation, someone in distress, or a potential violation of this Code of Conduct, even if it seems inconsequential. We do not tolerate harassment in any form. In particular, we prioritize marginalized people’s safety over privileged people’s comfort.

This Code of Conduct applies to **all people** participating in the community, to **all modes** of interaction, and to **all events** hosted or endorsed. If anyone engages in harassing behavior, the co-chairs will take action that may include warning the offender or asking them to leave an event or an online channel either temporarily or permanently, or seeking help from law enforcement.

We welcome your feedback by email, and we thank you for working with us to make the *Network* a safe, enjoyable, friendly and enriching experience for everyone who participates.

The *EuroQol PhD Network Code of Conduct* has been influenced by discussion during the *EOWG PhD Roundtables* held in Summer 2022 and the rOpenSci Code of Conduct, which can be found at their website, <https://ropensci.org/code-of-conduct/>.