





Patient- and parent proxy-reported outcome measures for life participation in children with chronic kidney disease: a systematic review

Jasmijn Kerklaan^{1,2}, Elyssa Hannan^{1,2}, Amanda Baumgart^{1,2}, Karine E. Manera ^{1,2}, Angela Ju^{1,2}, Mignon McCulloch³, Bashir Admani⁴, Amanda Dominello^{1,2}, Christopher Esezobor ^{5,6}, Bethany Foster⁷, Alexander Hamilton ⁸, Augustina Jankauskiene⁹, Rebecca J. Johnson¹⁰, Isaac Liu¹¹, Stephen D. Marks^{12,13}, Alicia Neu¹⁴, Franz Schaefer¹⁵, Shanna Sutton¹, Sebastian Wolfenden¹, Jonathan C. Craig¹⁶, Jaap Groothoff¹⁷, Martin Howell ^{1,2} and Allison Tong^{1,2}

¹Sydney School of Public Health, University of Sydney, Sydney, NSW, Australia, ²Centre for Kidney Research, Children's Hospital at Westmead, Westmead, NSW, Australia, ³Red Cross War Memorial Children's Hospital, University of Cape Town, Cape Town, South Africa, ⁴Department of Paediatrics and Child Health, University of Nairobi, Nairobi, Kenya, ⁵Department of Paediatrics, College of Medicine, University of Lagos, Lagos, Nigeria, ⁶Department of Paediatrics, Lagos University Teaching Hospital, Lagos, Nigeria, ⁷Department of Pediatrics, Division of Nephrology, Montreal Children's Hospital of the McGill University Health Centre, Montreal, QB, Canada, ⁸Population Health Sciences, University of Bristol, Bristol, UK, ⁹Pediatric Center, Institute of Clinical Medicine, Vilnius University, Vilnius, Lithuania, ¹⁰Division of Developmental and Behavioral Health, Children's Mercy Kansas City, University of Missouri Kansas City School of Medicine, Kansas City, MO, USA, ¹¹Department of Paediatrics, Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, National University of Singapore, Singapore, ¹²Department of Paediatric Nephrology, Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children NHS Foundation Trust, London, UK, ¹³University College London Great Ormond Street Institute of Child Health, NIHR Great Ormond Street Hospital Biomedical Research Centre, London, UK, ¹⁴Division of Pediatric Nephrology, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, MD, USA, ¹⁵Division of Pediatric Nephrology, Center for Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine, University of Heidelberg, Heidelberg, Germany, ¹⁶College of Medicine and Public Health, Flinders University, Adelaide, SA, Australia and ¹⁷Department of Pediatric Nephrology, Emma Children's Hospital, Academic Medical Center, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Correspondence to: Jasmijn Kerklaan; Email: j.kerklaan@amsterdamumc.nl

ABSTRACT

Background. The burden of chronic kidney disease (CKD) and its treatment may severely limit the ability of children with CKD to do daily tasks and participate in family, school, sporting and recreational activities. Life participation is critically important to affected children and their families; however, the appropriateness and validity of available measures used to assess this outcome are uncertain. The aim of this study was to identify the characteristics, content and psychometric properties of existing measures for life participation used in children with CKD.

Methods. We searched MEDLINE, Embase, PsychINFO, Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health Literature and the Cochrane Kidney and Transplant register to August 2019 for all studies that used a measure to report life participation in children with CKD. For each measure, we extracted and analyzed the characteristics, dimensions of life participation and psychometric properties.

Results. From 128 studies, we identified 63 different measures used to assess life participation in children with CKD. Twenty-five (40%) of the measures were patient reported, 7 (11%) were

parent proxy reported and 31 (49%) had both self and parent proxy reports available. Twenty-two were used in one study only. The Pediatric Quality of Life Inventory version 4.0 generic module was used most frequently in 62 (48%) studies. Seven (11%) were designed to assess ability to participate in life, with 56 (89%) designed to assess other constructs (e.g. quality of life) with a subscale or selected questions on life participation. Across all measures, the three most frequent activities specified were social activities with friends and/or family, leisure activities and self-care activities. Validation data in the pediatric CKD population were available for only 19 (30%) measures.

Conclusions. Life participation is inconsistently measured in children with CKD and the measures used vary in their characteristics, content and validity. Validation data supporting these measures in this population are often incomplete and are sparse. A meaningful and validated measure for life participation in children with CKD is needed.

Keywords: children, chronic kidney disease, chronic renal failure, life participation, patient-reported outcome measures

KEY LEARNING POINTS

What is already known about this subject?

- Children with chronic kidney disease (CKD), caregivers and health professionals have identified life participation as a critically important outcome, yet is largely absent from trials.
- The appropriateness and validity of available measures used to assess this life participation are uncertain.

What this study adds?

- Life participation is inconsistently measured in children with CKD, with 63 different measures used in trials and observational studies.
- The measures used vary in their characteristics and content.
- Validation data supporting the use of measures for life participation in children with CKD are often incomplete and sparse.

What impact this may have on practice or policy?

- Implementation of a core outcome measure for life participation in research can enable assessment of the comparative effect of interventions across trials and ensure that relevant evidence is generated for informed decision making.
- A standardized outcome measure for life participation has the potential to inform the development and evaluation of interventions to improve the ability of children with CKD to participate in daily living.

INTRODUCTION

Children with chronic kidney disease (CKD) have a higher chance of early mortality and disabling physical comorbidity [1]. They are also at an increased risk of worse psychosocial and cognitive functioning and poor developmental, educational and vocational outcomes compared with their healthy peers [2–7]. Moreover, the treatment burden and side effects of medications, lifestyle restrictions, dialysis and hospitalization can severely limit their ability to participate in activities, including school, family, sports and recreation.

Children with CKD, caregivers and health professionals have identified life participation as a critically important outcome [8, 9]. Life participation is defined as the ability to participate in meaningful activities of daily living [10]. Specifically, for children with CKD, being unable to attend school, participate in sports, spend time with friends, engage in recreational activities (e.g. sleepovers, vacations) and travel impairs their overall quality of life, mental health and capacity for self-management [11]. In general, they report poor quality of life across all domains, particularly social functioning [12]. Despite being of high priority to children with CKD and their families, the

outcome of life participation is largely absent from trials [13] and the appropriateness and validity of available measures used to assess this outcome are uncertain.

The aim of this study was to identify the characteristics, content and psychometric properties of patient- and parent proxy-reported outcome measures used to assess life participation in children with CKD. This may inform the choice or development of a meaningful and psychometrically robust and feasible outcome measure to evaluate life participation in children with CKD.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Selection criteria

We searched for all study designs [randomized and non-randomized trials and observational studies (i.e. cohort studies, case-control, cross-sectional studies)] that included a patient- or parent proxy-reported outcome measure of life participation in children with CKD. The measure had to be completed by patients or by their parents/guardians (as proxy for their child). Studies were eligible if they included children 0–18 years of age with CKD (any cause and any stage of treatment, including CKD not requiring kidney replacement therapy, hemodialysis, peritoneal dialysis or kidney transplantation). Studies that included a patient- or parent proxy-reported outcome measure for other constructs (e.g. quality of life and health status) were eligible if at least one question (item) was specific to life participation. We excluded studies if the measure of life participation was clinician reported or if the measure only included concepts that were distinct and separate to life participation (e.g. physical function/mobility and mental health). Abstract-only citations were included if they provided sufficient information about the measure (characteristics and content) used to assess life participation.

Study sources and measures

The search strategies are provided in [Supplementary data, Table S1](#). We conducted searches in MEDLINE, Embase, PsycINFO, Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health Literature and the Cochrane Kidney and Transplant register from database inception to August 2019. Google Scholar and reference lists of relevant studies and reviews were also searched. Two authors (J.K. and E.H.) screened all abstracts and excluded those not meeting the inclusion criteria then assessed the remaining full-text articles for eligibility. Other authors (A.J., K.M. and A.T.) reviewed the titles, abstracts and full texts. Any uncertainties or disagreements about the inclusion of articles were discussed among the authors (J.K., E.H., A.J., K.M. and A.T.) until a consensus was reached.

Data extraction and analysis

The first author (J.K.) extracted the following characteristics from each study: publication year, sample, patient age (mean/median, range), treatment modality (not on kidney replacement therapy, peritoneal dialysis, hemodialysis and kidney transplant), country, type of intervention (if applicable) and the measure used to assess life participation. For each outcome

measure, we referenced to the source study and searched for the full measure to extract the following characteristics: number of studies that used the measure, response format, number of items, recall period, cost of license to use the measure and completion time. One author (E.H.) searched for validation studies for each measure to extract psychometric data in children with CKD. The data were cross-checked by two other investigators (A.B. and A.J.).

Content dimensions of life participation

Life participation includes obligatory (e.g. school, homework and chores) and nonobligatory activities (e.g. social, sports and recreational activities) [14, 15]. We analyzed the content of each measure and classified the activities specified as obligatory and/or nonobligatory. We also assessed the frequency of specific activities that appeared in three or more outcome measures (e.g. walking, sports and social activities).

Assessment of psychometric properties

We used the Consensus-based Standards for the Selection of Health Measurement Instruments—Core Outcome Measures in Effectiveness Trials (COSMIN-COMET) framework [16] to examine the evidence, where available, for the following psychometric properties: content validity, criterion validity, cross-cultural validity, known groups validity, structural validity, responsiveness and reliability, including internal consistency and test–retest. We did this for each of the patient- and parent-reported outcome measures identified.

RESULTS

Characteristics of the measures

Across the 128 studies we identified 63 different measures that assessed life participation. Of these, 22 (35%) measures were used in only one study. The Pediatric Quality of Life (PedsQL) Inventory version 4.0 generic module [17] (all versions) was used most frequently [62 studies (48%)], followed by the PedsQL Inventory version 3.0 end-stage renal disease (ESRD) module [18] (all versions) [11 studies (9%)], 36-item Short Form Health Survey [19] (SF-36) [7 studies (5%)] and the Child Health Questionnaire Parent Form [20] (CHQ-PF50) [7 studies (5%)]. Detailed characteristics and frequency of use for the measures are provided in Table 1.

Of all the measures identified, 10 (16%) were developed specifically for use in children with CKD, 38 (60%) were developed for use in children and 1 (2%) was developed for use in patients with CKD, although not specifically for children. Nine measures had different versions for different age groups. For example, the PedsQL version 4.0 ESRD had a version for 2–4, 5–7, 8–12 and 13–18 years. Thirty-one (49%) of the measures had both self-report and parent proxy-report versions available. Seven (11%) of the measures were only parent proxy-reported measures. Among the patient-reported measures, the ages for which they were designed ranged from 4 to 18 years. Seven (11%) measures were designed to assess the ability to participate in life (e.g. physical activity, activities of daily living, impact of disease or impact of symptoms), compared with 56 (89%) measures

that were designed to assess a broader construct (e.g. quality of life, general or psychological health) with a subscale or selected questions on life participation.

The time taken for completion of each measure ranged from <2 to 45 min. The number of items in the questionnaires ranged from 5 [European Quality of Life (EQ-5D-Y/3L)] [30] to 107 [Child Health and Illness Profile-Adolescent Edition (CHIP-AE)] [52]. The recall period ranged from the day of assessment to 1 year back. Most of the measures [48 (76%)] were free of charge for noncommercial use, some of which required study registration.

Characteristics of studies

We selected 128 studies, conducted across 33 countries, that included a total of 10 298 participants. In 31 studies, both adults and children were included; however, the number of children was not specified in all of these studies. Of the included studies, 5 (4%) were randomized trials, 5 (4%) were nonrandomized trials and 118 (92%) were observational studies. The search results can be found in Figure 1 and the study characteristics are shown in Supplementary data, Tables S2 and S3.

Content of measures

Fifty (79%) measures assessed both obligatory and nonobligatory dimensions of life participation. Three (5%) measures included obligatory only dimensions and 10 (16%) included nonobligatory only measures. The activities stated within each dimension varied across studies, as did the specificity of the questions asking about the activities. For example, some measures had questions about specific activities, including the person's ability to dress, eat, walk, go to school or do chores, while other measures had questions that addressed life participation more generally, for example: things you want to do, things you are used to doing or things you do for fun. The details of the activities assessed in each measure are shown in Table 2.

Psychometric properties

The assessment of validity and reliability for each measure is shown in Supplementary data, Table S4. Of the 63 measures, only 19 had validation data from the pediatric CKD population. The reporting of psychometric data was variable and none of the measures reported information on more than three of the seven psychometric properties. Of these 19 measures, 1 was a generic measure for all ages (including both children and adults), 17 were child-specific generic measures and 1 was a CKD-specific measure designed for children. A summary of the psychometric data for each of these measures is provided in Table 3.

Most of the measures included were developed specifically to assess health-related quality of life in children and adolescents. Those for which psychometric information is available are discussed below. The 16D, a health-related quality of life questionnaire for adolescents, was adapted from its adult counterpart, the 15D, by a multidisciplinary working group [22]. In terms of content validity, 16D measured aspects of functioning specifically affected by the health state, and the measure was pilot tested in a healthy male adolescent sample

Table 1 Characteristics of measures used to assess life participation in children with CKD

Measure	Response format	No. of items	Recall	Completion time ^a (min) which the survey is designed for		Proxy available and for what age?	Costs	Frequency of use (no. of studies)
				Pediatric	CKD			
15D [21]	5-point ordinal scale	15	Current	-	-	-	Free	2
16D [22]	5-point ordinal scale	16	Current	-	12-15	-	Free	1
17D [23]	5-point ordinal scale	17	Current	-	8-11	<8-11	Free	2
CATIS [24]	5-point Likert scale	13	Current	-	8-22	-	Free	1
CHAQ [25]	4-point difficulty scale	30	Past week	-	8-18	0-18	Contact author	1
CHIP-AE ^b [26]	5-point frequency scale	107-138	Past 4 weeks	-	11-17	-	Contact author	2
CHQ-CH87 ^b [20]	4-/6-point ordinal scale	87	Past 4 weeks, 1 year	-	10-18	-	Varies	4
CHQ-PF50 ^b	4-/6-point ordinal scale	50	Past 4 weeks, 1 year	-	10-15	-	Varies	6
CHU 9D [27]	5-point ordinal scale	9	Current	-	3-5	<7	Free for noncommercial use	1
DGGM-37 [28]	5-, 6-point Likert scale	37	4 weeks	-	<5	4-16	Free for noncommercial use	1
EQ-5D [29]	VAS response format	16	Current	-	<5	-	Free for noncommercial use	2
EQ-5D-Y [30]	3-point ordinal scale	5	Current	-	<5	8-15	Free for noncommercial use	2
EQ-5D-3L [29]	3-point ordinal scale	5	Current	-	<5	-	Free for noncommercial use	1
FACIT-Fatigue [31]	5-point Likert scale	13	Past 7 days	-	5-10	-	Free	1
FAIT-U	5-point Likert scale	38	Past 7 days	-	~8	-	Free	1
GGQ [32]	5-point Likert scale	25	Current	-	15	6-14	Unclear	3
GHQ-12 [33]	4-point Likert scale	12	Past 4 weeks	-	~2	-	Varies	1
HUI 2 [34]	3-5-point ordinal scale	7	Past 1, 2 or 4 weeks	-	8-10	5-18	Free	2
HUI 3 [35]	5-6-point ordinal scale	8	Past 1, 2 or 4 weeks	-	8-10	5-18	Free	3
ICI [36]	2 x 3-point ordinal scale	30	Past year	-	<15	6-17	Contact author	1
Kajand's QOL instrument ^b [37]	5-point Likert scale	17	?	-	~3-4	-	Unclear	1
KDQOL-36	Yes/no, 3-/5-/6-point Likert scale	36	Current, past 4 weeks	-	~10	-	Free	2
KIDSCREEN-27 [38]	5-point Likert scale	27	Past week	-	10-15	8-18	Free for noncommercial use	4
KIDSCREEN-52 [39]	5-point Likert scale	52	Past week	-	15-20	8-18	Free for noncommercial use	2
KINDL Kiddy [40]	3-point Likert scale	12	Past week	-	15	4-6	Free for noncommercial use	1
KINDL Kid [40]	5-point Likert scale	24	Past week	-	5-10	7-13	Free for noncommercial use	3
KINDL Kiddo [40]	5-point Likert scale	24	Last week	-	5-10	7-17	Free for noncommercial use	3
PAQ-A [41]	5-point scale, yes/no	9	Past 7 days	-	~2	14-20	Free	1
PAQ-C [41]	5-point scale, yes/no	10	Past 7 days	-	~2	8-14	Free	1
PedsQL Generic Core Scales version 4.0	5-point Likert scale	21	Past month	-	~4	2-4	Free for noncommercial use	27
TODDLER [17]	3-point Likert scale	23	Past month	-	~4	5-7	Free for noncommercial use	37
PedsQL Generic Core Scales version 4.0 YOUNG CHILD [17]	5-point Likert scale	23	Past month	-	~4	8-12	Free for non-commercial use	51
PedsQL Generic Core Scales version 4.0 CHILD [17]	5-point Likert scale	23	Past month	-	~4	13-18	Free for noncommercial use	51
PedsQL Generic Core Scales version 4.0 TEENAGER [17]	5-point Likert scale	23	Past month	-	~4	13-18	Free for noncommercial use	51

Continued

Table 1 Continued

Measure	Response format	No. of items	Recall	Completion time ^a (min)	Specific group for which the survey is designed		Age (years)	Proxy measure available and for what age?	Costs	Frequency of use (no. of studies)
					Pediatric	CKD				
PedsQL version 3.0 ESDR module TODDLER [18]	5-point Likert scale	13	Past month	~3	●	●	-	2-4	Free for noncommercial use	6
PedsQL version 3.0 ESDR module YOUNG CHILD [18]	3-point Likert scale	34	Past month	~7	●	●	5-7	5-7	Free for noncommercial use	10
PedsQL version 3.0 ESDR module CHILD [18]	5-point Likert scale	34	Past month	~7	●	●	8-12	8-12	Free for noncommercial use	11
PedsQL version 3.0 ESDR module TEENAGER [18]	5-point Likert scale	34	Past month	~7	●	●	13-18	13-18	Free for noncommercial use	11
PedsQL Transplant module TODDLER [42]	5-point Likert scale	46	Past month	~9	●	●	-	2-4	Free for noncommercial use	1
PedsQL Transplant module YOUNG CHILD [42]	3-point Likert scale	46	Past month	~9	●	●	5-7	5-7	Free for noncommercial use	2
PedsQL Transplant module CHILD [42]	5-point Likert scale	46	Past month	~9	●	●	8-12	8-12	Free for noncommercial use	2
PedsQL Transplant module TEENAGER [42]	5-point Likert scale	46	Past month	~9	●	●	13-18	13-18	Free for noncommercial use	2
PROMIS Anxiety (Pediatric) [43]	5-point Likert scale	15	Past 7 days	~3	●	●	8-17	5-17	Free for noncommercial use	5
PROMIS Depression (Pediatric) [43]	5-point Likert scale	14	Past 7 days	~3	●	●	8-17	5-17	Free for noncommercial use	5
PROMIS Fatigue (Pediatric) [43]	5-point Likert scale	25	Past 7 days	~5	●	●	8-17	5-17	Free for noncommercial use	4
PROMIS Mobility (Pediatric) [43]	5-point Likert scale	24	Past 7 days	~5	●	●	8-17	5-17	Free for noncommercial use	4
PROMIS Pain Interference (Pediatric) [43]	5-point Likert scale	20	Past 7 days	~4	●	●	8-17	5-17	Free for noncommercial use	4
PROMIS Peer relations (Pediatric) [43]	5-point Likert scale	15	Past 7 days	~3	●	●	8-17	5-17	Free for noncommercial use	4
PROMIS Upper extremity function(Pediatric) [43]	5-point Likert scale	34	Past 7 days	~7	●	●	8-17	5-17	Free for noncommercial use	2
QOLPAV ^b [44]	5-point scale	54	Current	~11	●	●	14-20	-	<US\$45	1
RAND-36 [45]	Yes/no, 3-, 5-, 6-point Likert scale	36	Current, past 4 weeks, 3 months	5-10	-	-	-	-	Free	1
SDQ Children and Adolescents [46]	3-, 4-point scale	36	Past 6 months	5-10	●	●	-	4-10	Free, optional online scoring version for US\$0.25 per use	3
SDQ Youth [46]	3-, 4-point scale	37	Past 6 months	5-10	●	●	11-17	11-17	Free, optional online scoring version for US\$0.25 per use	3
SF-20	Yes/no, 3-/5-/6-point Likert scale	20	Current, past 4 weeks, 3 months	<5	-	-	-	-	Free	2
SF-36 [19]	Yes/no, 3-/5-/6-point Likert scale	36	Current, past 4 weeks, 3 months	5-10	-	-	-	-	Free for noncommercial use	7
SIS [47]	4-point Likert scale	24	Current	~5	-	-	-	-	Unclear	1
TACQOL [48]	3-, 4-point scale	63	Recent weeks	10-20	●	●	8-15	6-15	Free	3
TAPQOL [49]	3-, 4-point scale	43	Recent weeks	10	●	●	-	1-5	Free	1
TECAVNER [50]	Yes/no, 5-, 6-point scale	57	Current, last month and year	~30	●	●	9-18	<9-18	Free	1

WHOQOL-BREF [51]	5-point Likert scale	26	Current, past 2 weeks	~5	Unclear	2
Author-developed measures (for own study, not validated)						
El-Husseini 2009 ^b	4-point scale	57	NS	●	NS	Contact author
Hemming 1988 ^b	NS	NS	NS	-	-	Contact author
Morris 1993	Linear analogue scale	25	NS	●	NS	Contact author
Van Damme-Lombaerts 1994 ^b	NS	NS	NS	-	-	Contact author

^aWhere data on completion time were unavailable, authors estimated based on ~12 s/item.

^bCould not retrieve measure in full.

● yes/present; - no/not present; 15D, 16D, 17D, dimensions: CATTIS, Child Attitude Toward Illness Scale; CHAQ, Childhood Health Assessment Questionnaire; CHU 9D, Child Health Utility 9 Dimension; CHO-CF87, Child Health Questionnaire-Child Form; DCGM-37, DISABKIDS Chronic Generic Module; FACIT-Fatigue, Functional Assessment of Chronic Illness Therapy-fatigue scale; FAIT-U, Functional Assessment of Incontinence Therapy-Urinary; GCQ, Generic Children's Quality of Life Measure; GHQ-12, General Health Questionnaire; HUI2, Health Utilities Index 2; HUI3, Health Utilities Index 3; ICI, Impact of Childhood Illness Scale; Kajandis QOL, Kajandis Quality of Life questionnaire; KDQOL-36, Kidney Disease Quality of Life instrument; PAQ-A, Physical Activity Questionnaire-Adolescent; PAQ-C, Physical Activity Questionnaire-Children; QOLPAV, Quality of Life Profile: Adolescent Version; SDQ, Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire; SIS, Social Impact Scale; TACQOL, TNO-AZL Questionnaire for Children's Health-related Quality of Life; TAPQOL, TNO-AZL Questionnaire for Preschool Children's Health-related Quality of Life; WHOQOL-BREF, World Health Organization Quality of Life Questionnaire-Brief.

[22]. The one study available that examined discriminant validity found that children in the kidney transplant waitlist sample reported lower 16D scores than healthy controls [22]. The CHIP-AE also demonstrated adequate discriminant validity, with adolescents with CKD reporting lower satisfaction and physical activity and higher emotional discomfort, risk, family involvement, home safety and health and social problem-solving compared with healthy controls [55]. Patients with a kidney transplant reported higher quality of life than those on dialysis or with pre-dialysis CKD [55].

The PedsQL Inventory Generic Core Scales version 4.0 for toddlers, young children, children and teenagers also demonstrated good discriminant validity, with both child- and parent-reported scores differing by disease status and treatment modality [54, 59]. Regarding convergent validity, this measure demonstrated associations between emotional functioning and social factors such as family structures. Internal consistency was high for both the parent proxy-reported score and the child-reported score. The PedsQL Transplant modules for toddlers, young children, older children and adolescents were developed through a series of interviews, focus groups, pretesting and field testing and demonstrated high internal consistency for both child-reported and parent proxy-reported measures [42].

The Patient-Reported Outcomes Measurement Information System (PROMIS) pediatric measures (including depression, anxiety, fatigue, mobility, pain interference, peer relations and upper extremity function) also exhibited high content validity in a pediatric CKD population [56]. The items for the measures were developed through focus groups, cognitive interviews, expert item review and pilot testing, after which item response theory (IRT) analysis was conducted to group items into measures [55, 57]. The PROMIS measures provided strong evidence of discriminant validity, such that scores across many of the measures were worse for those with a more advanced stage of CKD, higher disease activity, greater comorbidity and greater history of hospital admission [56]. The Test of Quality of Life in Children with Kidney Disease measure was adapted from other childhood health-related quality of life measures in consultation with patients and parents, as well as pilot studies [50]. The measure demonstrated very high internal consistency for both child-report and parent proxy-report scales [50]. Finally, the SF-36, a generic health-related quality of life (HRQoL) measure used for both adults and children, demonstrated discriminant validity in a pediatric CKD population [58]. SF-36 scores varied across treatment modality, with patients receiving dialysis indicating worse scores than transplant recipients and patients with any stage of CKD indicating worse scores than healthy controls [58].

DISCUSSION

While life participation is critically important to children across all stages of CKD, this outcome is infrequently reported in research in CKD, with many different measures used. Of the 128 trials and observational studies that reported life participation, 63 different measures were used to assess this outcome. Some

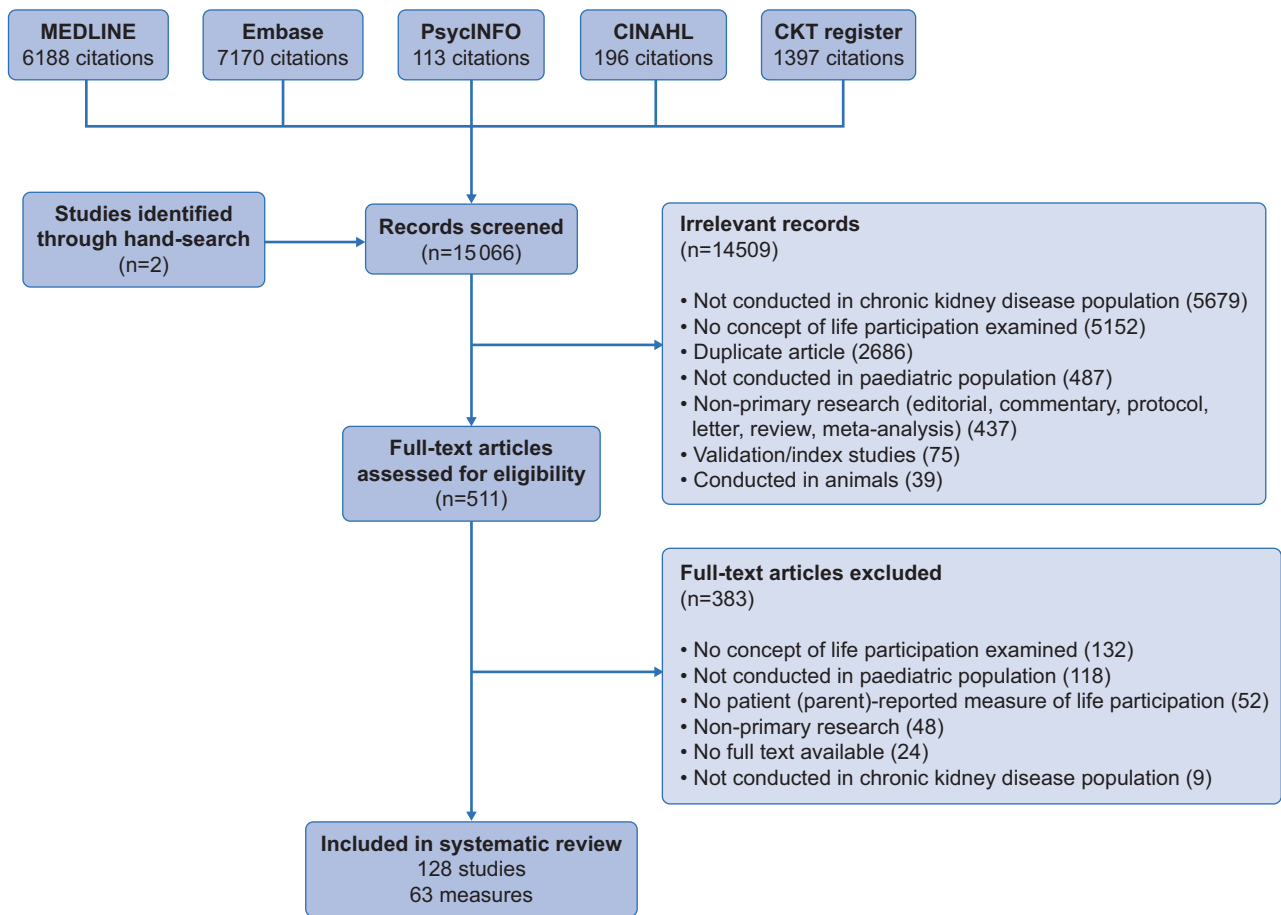


FIGURE 1: Search results.

scales that include an item covering life participation may have primarily been assessing another construct. These measures varied in terms of content, response scale, number of items, completion time, recall period, cost and availability of psychometric data. Of these measures, 38 (60%) were developed for children to complete and 31 (49%) were designed for children ≥ 8 years of age. Seven (11%) were specifically designed for parent proxy reporting. Ten (16%) measures were developed for use specifically in children with CKD. Most of the measures assessed life participation with questions that included both obligatory and nonobligatory activities. In terms of the specific activities of life participation that were included in the measures, the top five most common were social activities with friends and/or family [41 (63%) measures], leisure activities [30 (48%) measures], self-care activities [28 (44%) measures], walking and/or running [26 (41%) measures] and sports [17 (27%) measures].

The variability of the measures used and evidence for the psychometric properties could be due in part to differences in the patient populations and countries in which they were administered. The most frequently used measures were the PedsQL generic module (all age versions), PedsQL ESRD (all age versions) module, SF-36 and the CHQ-PF50, which were used in two-thirds of the studies overall. These four were global health-related quality of life measures that included questions on life participation. Life participation was seldom assessed as a

distinct or separate construct in children with CKD. Instead, it was often incorporated as a component of quality of life. Similarly, life participation was rarely reported as a separate construct for parent proxy-reported measures.

Detailed classifications for the specific constructs of activities and participation have been developed as part of the World Health Organization's International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health Children and Youth version [60]. These include domains such as mobility (e.g. walking and moving), self-care (e.g. washing oneself, dressing and eating), domestic life (e.g. household tasks), interpersonal interactions and relationships and community and social and civic life (e.g. recreation and leisure). Life participation is a critically important construct to children with CKD that is likely to be a major contributor to overall quality of life. Life participation clearly and directly addresses the ability to do activities that are important to them [11, 61]. Of note, a study found that children with a kidney transplant had similar scores to children receiving dialysis based on the HRQoL assessment, but when asked if the transplant had changed their lives in a positive way, they agreed that the transplant had improved their social life [62]. Thus life participation (which includes the ability to participate in social activities) may be more discriminatory in assessing this patient-important outcome. These reasons support the assessment of life participation as a construct on its own. Of note, life participation has

Table 2. Dimensions of life participation assessed by each measure

Measure	Obligatory		Nonobligatory		Physical activities			Social activities			Leisure activities ^a		School/work		Self-care ^b		Other	
	Walking	Running	Sports ^d	Other/Ns ^e	Friends	Family	Other/ns ^f	Leisure activities ^a	School/work	Self-care ^b	Other	Leisure activities ^a	School/work	Self-care ^b	Other			
15D	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
16D	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
17D	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
CATS	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
CHAQ	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
CHIP-AE	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
CHQ-CF87	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
CHQ-PF50	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
CHU 9D	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
DCGM-37	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
EQ-5D	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
EQ-5D-Y	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
EQ-5D-3L	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
FACIT-Fatigue	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
FAIT-U	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
GCC	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
GHQ-12	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
HUI 2	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
HUI 3	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
ICI	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Kajand's QOL	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
KDQOL-36	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
KIDSCREEN-27	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
KIDSCREEN-52	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
KINDL ^c	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
PAQ-A/C ^c	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
PedsQL version 4.0 ^c	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
PedsQL version 3.0 ESDR ^c	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
PedsQL Transplant ^c	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
PROMIS Anxiety	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
PROMIS Depressive Symptoms	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
PROMIS Fatigue	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
PROMIS Mobility	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
PROMIS Pain Interference	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
PROMIS Peer Relation	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
PROMIS Upper Extremity	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
QOLPAV	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
RAND-36	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
SDQ ^c	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
SF-20	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
SF-36	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
SIS	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
TACQOL	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
TAPQOL	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

Continued

Table 2. Continued

Measure	Obligatory		Nonobligatory		Physical activities			Social activities			Leisure activities ^a		School/work		Self-care ^b		Other	
	Walking	Running	Sports ^d	Other/Ns ^e	Friends	Family	Other/ns ^f	Family	Friends	Other/ns ^f	Leisure activities ^a	School/work	Self-care ^b	School/work	Self-care ^b	Other	Other	
TEAVNER	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
WHOQOL-BREF	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Author-developed measures (for own study, not validated)	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
El-Husseini 2009	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Henning 1988	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Morris 1993	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Van Damme-Lombaerts 1994 ^c	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

^aDoing things you like/want to do, play, have fun, activities you enjoy the most.

^bDressing, grooming, washing, brush teeth, comb hair, eating, house work, chores, grocery shopping, get up from the toilet, climbing stairs, pour a drink, daily living activities, getting around and home life.

^cApplies to all versions.

^dSports in general.

^eBiking, climbing stairs, lifting heavy objects, physical activity and limitations of activity.

^fNeighbors, groups and colleagues.

●, yes/present; -, no/not present.

been assessed in other childhood chronic conditions including cancer and congenital heart disease [63, 64].

Studies that have evaluated the psychometric properties of measures used to assess life participation in children with CKD are extremely sparse and incomplete, with only 19 (30%) of the 63 measures containing some validation data. No single measure had comprehensive validation data. Even the most frequently used measures had very limited evidence for psychometric properties. Therefore the suitability of measures to assess life participation in children with CKD remains uncertain and further validation is needed. Among the few measures that have been validated in children with CKD, the types of psychometric properties assessed were variable and limited. Similar conclusions were reached in a recent systematic review assessing PROMs in children with solid organ transplantation [65].

We conducted a comprehensive search for measures used to assess life participation in children with CKD and assessed the psychometric properties of the measures found. This review included patient-reported measures as well as parent proxy-reported measures. We only included studies evaluating children with CKD, so it is possible we have not included measures of life participation used in other populations that may be potentially relevant.

This review provides comprehensive evidence to inform the process for establishing a core outcome measure for life participation in children with CKD. A core outcome measure must ensure that life participation is relevant to patients and assessed and reported in a consistent and accurate way. The measures found in this review included activities such as schoolwork [17, 20–23, 26–30, 34, 37–40, 43, 45–48, 50, 66], sports [17, 19, 21, 22, 26, 27, 41, 43, 45, 48], spending time with family and friends [17, 19, 20, 22, 23, 26–30, 36–40, 43, 45, 46, 48, 49, 54, 67] and being able to keep up and do the things they like to do [21–26, 28–30, 36, 38, 39, 42–44, 46, 48, 50, 51, 54]. These have been identified as meaningful life activities by children with CKD [9, 11, 68]. Some of the measures that were designed for use in adults asked about activities less relevant to children, including grocery shopping [19, 45], vacuum cleaning [19, 45, 69] or sexual activity [51, 69–71].

Some children with CKD may not be able to complete measures themselves, such as younger children or children with severe cognitive impairment or intellectual disability. Thus the use of parent proxy-reported measures may be required. However, this can be challenging because studies have shown discrepancies between children and their parents/caregivers [72–74]. For parents, the assessment of their child's health is based on what can be observed (rather than direct experience) and may be influenced by additional factors including their own well-being, their involvement in treatment and their responsibility for the child's daily care [73, 75]. In our review, 45 (35%) studies compared patient- and parent proxy-reported data. The potential discrepancies in responses will need to be considered in the selection or development of parent proxy-completed measures. [74–76].

Life participation is a concept that is well-established in the field of occupational therapy. Measures that have been used in this field, which were not captured in our review, include the Child and Adolescent Scale of Participation [77], which assesses

Table 3. Psychometric properties of measures of life participation that have reported validation studies in children with CKD

Measure (<i>n</i> = 19)	Validity	Reliability
16D [22]	<p>Content^a: The 16D was developed from the adult version (15D) and some items adapted to be more suitable for adolescents. A multidisciplinary working group made these decisions before pilot testing with healthy adolescent boys and their parents. The items were chosen to reflect functionality that is influenced by health state, with minimal influence of other variables.</p> <p>Construct^b: NA</p> <p>Convergent^c: NA</p> <p>Discriminant^d: Overall 16D score was lower for patients waiting for Tx compared to controls.</p> <p>Criterion^e: NA</p> <p>Predictive^f: NA</p> <p>Concurrent^g: NA</p> <p>Content: NA</p> <p>Construct: NA</p> <p>Convergent: NA</p> <p>Discriminant: Compared with controls, CKD patients had significantly lower scores on all scales of the satisfaction domain, as well as for physical activity and all several disorder subscales. CKD patients scored higher for emotional discomfort, family involvement, home safety and health and social problem-solving, as well as for all scales of the risks domain. Similarly, Tx patients reported better overall health status than CRI or dialysis patients, and higher levels of physical activity were seen in Tx and CRI patients than dialysis patients.</p> <p>Criterion: NA</p> <p>Predictive: NA</p> <p>Concurrent: NA</p> <p>Content: NA</p> <p>Construct: NA</p> <p>Convergent: Children with married parents had higher self-reported emotional functioning and higher parent-reported emotional, physical and school functioning scores than children with unmarried parents</p> <p>Discriminant: Children with ESRD scored significantly lower on total PedsQL score and on each domain subscales, for both child-report and parent-report versions, $P < 0.001$. Further, children on PD and HD had lower parent-reported scores on all subscales except school functioning, compared with Tx children</p> <p>Differences between the scores of children with ESRD and healthy controls were large for both child self-report and parent proxy-report, $P < 0.001$</p> <p>Criterion: NA</p> <p>Predictive:</p> <p>Concurrent: NA</p> <p>Content: Module scales were developed through a series of focus groups, interviews, pre-testing and field-testing.</p> <p>Construct: NA</p> <p>Convergent: NA</p> <p>Discriminant: NA</p> <p>Criterion: NA</p> <p>Predictive: NA</p> <p>Concurrent: NA</p>	<p>Test-retest^h: NA</p> <p>Internal consistencyⁱ: NA</p>
CHIP-AE [53]	<p>Criterion: NA</p> <p>Predictive: NA</p> <p>Concurrent: NA</p> <p>Content: NA</p> <p>Construct: NA</p> <p>Convergent: Children with married parents had higher self-reported emotional functioning and higher parent-reported emotional, physical and school functioning scores than children with unmarried parents</p> <p>Discriminant: Children with ESRD scored significantly lower on total PedsQL score and on each domain subscales, for both child-report and parent-report versions, $P < 0.001$. Further, children on PD and HD had lower parent-reported scores on all subscales except school functioning, compared with Tx children</p> <p>Differences between the scores of children with ESRD and healthy controls were large for both child self-report and parent proxy-report, $P < 0.001$</p> <p>Criterion: NA</p> <p>Predictive:</p> <p>Concurrent: NA</p> <p>Content: Module scales were developed through a series of focus groups, interviews, pre-testing and field-testing.</p> <p>Construct: NA</p> <p>Convergent: NA</p> <p>Discriminant: NA</p> <p>Criterion: NA</p> <p>Predictive: NA</p> <p>Concurrent: NA</p>	<p>Test-retest: NA</p> <p>Internal consistency: NA</p>
PedsQL Generic Core Scales version 4.0 Toddler	<p>Criterion: NA</p> <p>Predictive: NA</p> <p>Concurrent: NA</p> <p>Content: NA</p> <p>Construct: NA</p> <p>Convergent: Children with married parents had higher self-reported emotional functioning and higher parent-reported emotional, physical and school functioning scores than children with unmarried parents</p> <p>Discriminant: Children with ESRD scored significantly lower on total PedsQL score and on each domain subscales, for both child-report and parent-report versions, $P < 0.001$. Further, children on PD and HD had lower parent-reported scores on all subscales except school functioning, compared with Tx children</p> <p>Differences between the scores of children with ESRD and healthy controls were large for both child self-report and parent proxy-report, $P < 0.001$</p> <p>Criterion: NA</p> <p>Predictive:</p> <p>Concurrent: NA</p> <p>Content: Module scales were developed through a series of focus groups, interviews, pre-testing and field-testing.</p> <p>Construct: NA</p> <p>Convergent: NA</p> <p>Discriminant: NA</p> <p>Criterion: NA</p> <p>Predictive: NA</p> <p>Concurrent: NA</p>	<p>Test-retest: NA</p> <p>Internal consistency: Internal consistency for the PedsQL version 4.0 was high for both the parent proxy total score ($\alpha = 0.94$) and the child self-report total score ($\alpha = 0.88$). Parent proxy domain subscales internal consistency ranged from $\alpha = 0.61$ ('treatment problems') to $\alpha = 0.93$ ('general fatigue'). Child self-report domain subscales internal consistency ranged from $\alpha = 0.39$ 'treatment problems' to $\alpha = 0.85$ ('worry')</p>
PedsQL Generic Core Scales version 4.0 Child [54]	<p>Criterion: NA</p> <p>Predictive: NA</p> <p>Concurrent: NA</p> <p>Content: NA</p> <p>Construct: NA</p> <p>Convergent: Children with married parents had higher self-reported emotional functioning and higher parent-reported emotional, physical and school functioning scores than children with unmarried parents</p> <p>Discriminant: Children with ESRD scored significantly lower on total PedsQL score and on each domain subscales, for both child-report and parent-report versions, $P < 0.001$. Further, children on PD and HD had lower parent-reported scores on all subscales except school functioning, compared with Tx children</p> <p>Differences between the scores of children with ESRD and healthy controls were large for both child self-report and parent proxy-report, $P < 0.001$</p> <p>Criterion: NA</p> <p>Predictive:</p> <p>Concurrent: NA</p> <p>Content: Module scales were developed through a series of focus groups, interviews, pre-testing and field-testing.</p> <p>Construct: NA</p> <p>Convergent: NA</p> <p>Discriminant: NA</p> <p>Criterion: NA</p> <p>Predictive: NA</p> <p>Concurrent: NA</p>	<p>Test-retest: NA</p> <p>Internal consistency: Internal consistency for the PedsQL version 4.0 was high for both the parent proxy total score ($\alpha = 0.94$) and the child self-report total score ($\alpha = 0.88$). Parent proxy domain subscales internal consistency ranged from $\alpha = 0.61$ ('treatment problems') to $\alpha = 0.93$ ('general fatigue'). Child self-report domain subscales internal consistency ranged from $\alpha = 0.39$ 'treatment problems' to $\alpha = 0.85$ ('worry')</p>
PedsQL Transplant module Toddler [42]	<p>Criterion: NA</p> <p>Predictive: NA</p> <p>Concurrent: NA</p> <p>Content: NA</p> <p>Construct: NA</p> <p>Convergent: Children with married parents had higher self-reported emotional functioning and higher parent-reported emotional, physical and school functioning scores than children with unmarried parents</p> <p>Discriminant: Children with ESRD scored significantly lower on total PedsQL score and on each domain subscales, for both child-report and parent-report versions, $P < 0.001$. Further, children on PD and HD had lower parent-reported scores on all subscales except school functioning, compared with Tx children</p> <p>Differences between the scores of children with ESRD and healthy controls were large for both child self-report and parent proxy-report, $P < 0.001$</p> <p>Criterion: NA</p> <p>Predictive:</p> <p>Concurrent: NA</p> <p>Content: Module scales were developed through a series of focus groups, interviews, pre-testing and field-testing.</p> <p>Construct: NA</p> <p>Convergent: NA</p> <p>Discriminant: NA</p> <p>Criterion: NA</p> <p>Predictive: NA</p> <p>Concurrent: NA</p>	<p>Test-retest: NA</p> <p>Internal consistency: Each subscale on both the child self-report and the parent proxy-report $\alpha > 0.70$ indicating good internal consistency. Child self-report scale total scale had $\alpha = 0.91$, with the subscales ranging from $\alpha = 0.76$ to 0.87. Parent proxy report total scale had $\alpha = 0.94$ with the subscales ranging from $\alpha = 0.81$ to 0.91</p>
PedsQL Transplant module Child [42]	<p>Criterion: NA</p> <p>Predictive: NA</p> <p>Concurrent: NA</p> <p>Content: NA</p> <p>Construct: NA</p> <p>Convergent: Children with married parents had higher self-reported emotional functioning and higher parent-reported emotional, physical and school functioning scores than children with unmarried parents</p> <p>Discriminant: Children with ESRD scored significantly lower on total PedsQL score and on each domain subscales, for both child-report and parent-report versions, $P < 0.001$. Further, children on PD and HD had lower parent-reported scores on all subscales except school functioning, compared with Tx children</p> <p>Differences between the scores of children with ESRD and healthy controls were large for both child self-report and parent proxy-report, $P < 0.001$</p> <p>Criterion: NA</p> <p>Predictive:</p> <p>Concurrent: NA</p> <p>Content: Module scales were developed through a series of focus groups, interviews, pre-testing and field-testing.</p> <p>Construct: NA</p> <p>Convergent: NA</p> <p>Discriminant: NA</p> <p>Criterion: NA</p> <p>Predictive: NA</p> <p>Concurrent: NA</p>	<p>Test-retest: NA</p> <p>Internal consistency: NA</p>
PedsQL Transplant module Teenager [42]	<p>Criterion: NA</p> <p>Predictive: NA</p> <p>Concurrent: NA</p> <p>Content: NA</p> <p>Construct: NA</p> <p>Convergent: Children with married parents had higher self-reported emotional functioning and higher parent-reported emotional, physical and school functioning scores than children with unmarried parents</p> <p>Discriminant: Children with ESRD scored significantly lower on total PedsQL score and on each domain subscales, for both child-report and parent-report versions, $P < 0.001$. Further, children on PD and HD had lower parent-reported scores on all subscales except school functioning, compared with Tx children</p> <p>Differences between the scores of children with ESRD and healthy controls were large for both child self-report and parent proxy-report, $P < 0.001$</p> <p>Criterion: NA</p> <p>Predictive:</p> <p>Concurrent: NA</p> <p>Content: Module scales were developed through a series of focus groups, interviews, pre-testing and field-testing.</p> <p>Construct: NA</p> <p>Convergent: NA</p> <p>Discriminant: NA</p> <p>Criterion: NA</p> <p>Predictive: NA</p> <p>Concurrent: NA</p>	<p>Test-retest: NA</p> <p>Internal consistency: NA</p>
PROMIS [55–57] anxiety (pediatric)	<p>Criterion: NA</p> <p>Predictive: NA</p> <p>Concurrent: NA</p> <p>Content: NA</p> <p>Construct: NA</p> <p>Convergent: Children with married parents had higher self-reported emotional functioning and higher parent-reported emotional, physical and school functioning scores than children with unmarried parents</p> <p>Discriminant: Children with ESRD scored significantly lower on total PedsQL score and on each domain subscales, for both child-report and parent-report versions, $P < 0.001$. Further, children on PD and HD had lower parent-reported scores on all subscales except school functioning, compared with Tx children</p> <p>Differences between the scores of children with ESRD and healthy controls were large for both child self-report and parent proxy-report, $P < 0.001$</p> <p>Criterion: NA</p> <p>Predictive:</p> <p>Concurrent: NA</p> <p>Content: Module scales were developed through a series of focus groups, interviews, pre-testing and field-testing.</p> <p>Construct: NA</p> <p>Convergent: NA</p> <p>Discriminant: NA</p> <p>Criterion: NA</p> <p>Predictive: NA</p> <p>Concurrent: NA</p>	<p>Test-retest: NA</p> <p>Internal consistency: NA</p>

Continued

Table 3. Continued

Measure (n = 19)	Validity	Reliability
PROMIS depression (pediatric)	Content: PROMIS measures were created through focus groups, cognitive interviews, expert item review and pilot testing. IRT analysis was conducted to determine groups of questions from which to create the subscales	
PROMIS fatigue (pediatric)	Construct: NA	
PROMIS mobility (pediatric)	Convergent: NA	
PROMIS pain interference (pediatric)	<i>Discriminant:</i> Patients with end-stage kidney disease reported worse scores for mobility and upper extremity functioning compared to earlier CKD stages. The subgroup of the sample with active nephrotic syndrome had worse scores for lower mobility, anxiety, pain interference and fatigue than did patients with nonactive nephrotic syndrome.	
PROMIS peer relations (pediatric)	Additionally, patients who had experienced a hospital stay in the 6 months prior to admission had worse scores for all scales except anger	
PROMIS upper extremity function (pediatric)	Disease severity (measured by proxy variables of eGFR and hospital admissions) was associated correlated with depression, anxiety, mobility, pain interference and fatigue scores. Degree of comorbidity was associated with worse fatigue, mobility, upper extremity function and social peer-relationship scores	
SF-36 [58]	Criterion: <i>Predictive:</i> NA <i>Concurrent:</i> NA Content: NA Construct: NA <i>Convergent:</i> NA <i>Discriminant:</i> SF-36 scores were significantly worse for PD and HD patients compared to Tx patients and healthy controls for six of the eight subscales. Tx patients differed from healthy controls in four subscales; scoring worse for physical function, role limitation physical and general health perception and scored better for mental health. Criterion: NA <i>Predictive:</i> NA <i>Concurrent:</i> NA	Test-retest: N/A Internal consistency: N/A
TECAVNER [50]	Content: Measure development was guided by extensive research into other HRQoL measures (such as KDQOL for adults and CAVE for epileptic children). Decisions about which measures to include from different questionnaires were guided by information reported by children with CKD and their parents in a prior study. Pilot studies were conducted to assess comprehensibility and the final measure was adjusted in order to be easier for children to understand Construct: NA <i>Convergent:</i> NA <i>Discriminant:</i> NA Criterion: NA <i>Predictive:</i> NA <i>Concurrent:</i> NA	Test-retest: N/A Internal consistency: Internal consistency was very high with $\alpha = 0.925$ for the child self-report measure and $\alpha = 0.9156$ for the parent proxy-report measure

Validation studies were excluded if they were not available in full, were for a translation of the original measure or were not written in English.

^aContent validity: the extent to which a measure appears to adequately assess the conceptual domain of a variable.

^bConstruct validity: the extent to which a measure adequately measures a construct it purports to measure.

^cConvergent validity: the extent to which scores on two measures of theoretically related constructs are positively correlated.

^dDiscriminant validity: the extent to which scores on two measures of theoretically unrelated constructs are uncorrelated.

^eCriterion validity: the extent to which scores on a measure are related to an outcome of interest.

^fPredictive validity: the extent to which scores on a measure predict a later outcome of interest.

^gConcurrent validity: the degree of correlation between scores from repeated measurements of a measure.

^hTest-retest reliability: the degree of correlation between scores from repeated measurements of a measure.

ⁱInternal consistency: the extent to which responses to different items within a measure are correlated.

KDQOL-36, Kidney Disease Quality of Life instrument.

children's participation by measuring the extent to which children participate in home, school and community activities, and the Children Participation Questionnaire, which is a parent-completed measure of activities of daily living, instrumental activities of daily living, play, leisure, social participation and education [78]. The Pediatric Measure of Participation has been used in children with spinal cord injury and includes items that assess essential activities (e.g. caring for oneself) and discretionary activities (e.g. sports, having sleepovers) [79]. The Patient Reported Outcomes Measurement Information System Ability to Participate in Social Roles and Activities measure is designed for use in adults [80] and we are not aware of reports of its use in the pediatric population.

The use of patient-reported outcome measures in research and practice is being widely advocated to provide information on how patients feel and function, in order to improve the quality and cost of care [65, 81, 82]. These measures should assess outcomes that are important to patients and caregivers. The Standardized Outcomes in Nephrology–Children and Adolescents initiative established life participation as the most important patient-reported outcome for children with CKD, through nominal group technique, a Delphi survey and consensus workshops, which involved >120 patients, 220 caregivers and 400 health professionals from >70 countries [61, 83, 84]. Subsequent work will involve the selection or development of a validated core outcome measure for life participation in children with CKD, which will be based on the COSMIN-COMET framework [16]. This will include a consensus workshop and stakeholder interviews with children, adolescents and young adults with CKD, caregivers and health professionals. To ensure that the measure includes relevant content related to life participation, the measure will be piloted with cognitive interviews and validation studies.

A well-validated and standardized measure for life participation is necessary to ensure that this important outcome is reliably, consistently and meaningfully assessed in children with CKD. Implementation of a core outcome measure for life participation in research can enable assessment of the comparative effect of interventions across trials and ensure that relevant evidence is generated for informed decision making. Ultimately, a standardized outcome measure for life participation has the potential to inform the development and evaluation of interventions to improve the ability of children with CKD to participate in daily living.

SUPPLEMENTARY DATA

Supplementary data are available at [ndt](https://academic.oup.com/ndt) online.

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AUTHORS' CONTRIBUTIONS

The research idea and study design were carried out by A.T., J.K. and J.C.C. Data acquisition was carried out by J.K., E.H., A.B., K.M., A.J. and A.T. Data analysis/interpretation were performed by all authors. Supervision or mentorship was carried out by A.T., J.G. and J.C.C. Each author contributed important intellectual content during manuscript drafting or revision and accepts accountability for the overall work by ensuring that questions pertaining to the accuracy or integrity of any portion of the work are appropriately investigated and resolved.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST STATEMENT

None of the authors have financial interests to disclose. The results presented in this article have not been published previously.

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