

## Development of the PRISMA-COSMIN for Outcome Measurement Instruments reporting guideline

Dear PRISMA-COSMIN advisors and collaborators,

Greetings from Toronto! We hope this newsletter finds you well. As we have reached some important milestones in the project, we'd like to share the team's accomplishments to date, and inform you about upcoming phases of the project. We are very happy to hear from you if this update raises any questions or concerns, or if you would like to share your thoughts or ideas. We hope you enjoy reading this newsletter and wish you happy holidays!

*The PRISMA-COSMIN Steering Committee: Ellen Elsmann, Nancy Butcher, Caroline Terwee, Wieneke Mokkink, Maureen Smith, Joel Gagnier, Andrea Tricco, Dorcas Beaton, David Moher & Martin Offringa*

### Delphi study (April – September 2022)

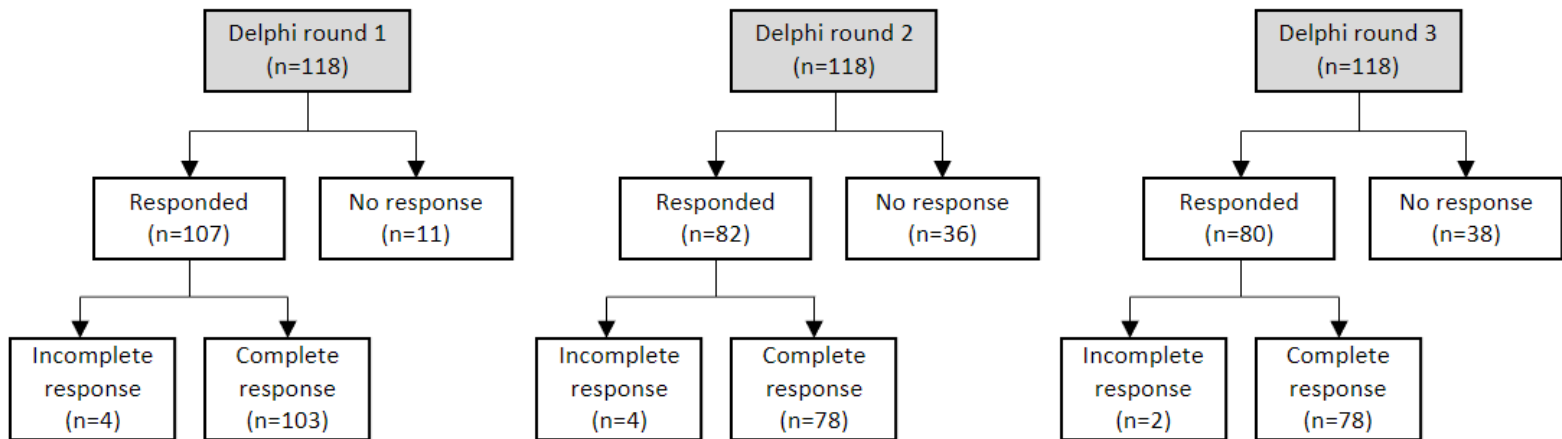
We have completed a three round Delphi study with panelists from various backgrounds. In total, 246 individuals were invited to participate. Invitees included members of the technical advisory group and knowledge user group, authors from other reporting guidelines, editors of relevant journals, individuals who co-authored at least three systematic reviews of outcome measurement instruments, and a select group of patients and members of the public. Of these, 81 registered for the Delphi study (response rate 33%), and another 38 individuals registered after referral by a colleague. One person withdrew, so for each round 118 persons were invited. Responses for each round are outlined below, and the number of participants that completed all three rounds, two of the three rounds, one round, or none of the rounds are outlined on the right:

**Responses per round**  
All 3 rounds n=69

Round 1 and 2 n=11  
Round 2 and 3 n=2  
Round 1 and 3 n=8

Round 1 only n=18  
Round 2 only n=0  
Round 3 only n=1

None of the rounds n=9



#### Name of the guideline

In Delphi Round 3, panelists were asked for their preference regarding the name of the guideline, to facilitate maximum uptake. A majority (63%) preferred a name in which "COSMIN" was included.

Therefore, the name of the guideline will be *PRISMA-COSMIN for Outcome Measurement Instruments*.

#### Scope of the guideline

The guideline is intended for reporting systematic reviews of outcome measurement instruments in which at least one measurement property of at least one instrument is appraised, including risk of bias assessment of studies, evidence synthesis, and certainty assessment. These systematic reviews support decision-making on the suitability of an outcome measurement instrument.

### “Workgroup meeting” instead of “Consensus meeting”

Most reporting items proposed in the Delhi rounds eventually had high consensus for inclusion and wording. Because there were only a few items left to discuss at a consensus meeting, we decided to change our plans and organized a 3-hour hybrid workgroup meeting instead, that took place on November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023. Besides the steering committee, 23 people were invited to (virtually) attend the meeting. Including the steering committee, 24 people representing various stakeholder groups were able to attend the meeting: 16 attendees joined by Zoom and 8 people attended in person. The following was discussed at the meeting:

1. Results of the Delhi study, with a restricted focus on:
  - The 8 items for which the wording had (slightly) been changed based on panelists’ comments received in Delphi round 3, to agree upon their wording
  - The 2 items that had no consensus yet for inclusion in the guideline, to vote upon their inclusion/exclusion
2. Drafting the Explanation & Elaboration (E&E) document of the guideline, using a group-writing process
3. Pilot testing and dissemination of the guideline

### Reporting items in the two draft checklists

Similar to the original PRISMA 2020 guideline, PRISMA-COSMIN for Outcome Measurement Instruments will consist of one checklist with reporting items for the full report, and one separate checklist with reporting items for the abstract.

#### Checklist #1: Systematic review full report

Contains 41 (sub)items. Compared to the original PRISMA 2020 checklist, we have:

- 17 *original* PRISMA 2020 items – exactly the same items as in the PRISMA 2020 checklist
- 18 *modified* PRISMA 2020 items – included in PRISMA 2020, but content is modified
- 6 *new* items – added to the PRISMA COSMIN for Outcome Measurement Instruments checklist
- 7 original PRISMA 2020 items have been *deleted* – not present in the PRISMA-COSMIN for Outcome Measurement Instruments checklist

#### Checklist #2: Systematic review abstract

Contains 13 items. Compared to the original PRISMA 2020 for Abstracts checklist, we have:

- 9 *original* PRISMA 2020 items – exactly the same as in PRISMA 2020 for Abstracts checklist
- 3 *modified* PRISMA 2020 items – included in PRISMA 2020 for Abstracts, but content is modified
- 1 *new* item – added to the PRISMA COSMIN for Outcome Measurement Instruments checklist



### The involvement of patient/public contributors

The conclusions of systematic reviews of outcome measurement instruments – informing the choice whether to use or not to use an outcome measurement instrument – have a direct impact on patients and members of the public. They are the direct end-users of the results of these systematic reviews, and their opinion on what is relevant to report and how to report it is important. Maureen Smith is a member of the steering committee as a patient/public partner and co-leads the patient/public engagement component of the project along with Ellen Elsmann. In addition, 5 patient/public contributors have participated in Delphi study after they were onboarded with an online training session. They had a 100% completion rate and shared their experiences with the Delphi study in a focus group discussion. Patient/public contributors were subsequently invited to contribute to the next phases of the project (i.e., attend the workgroup meeting and draft the Explanation & Elaboration document). Three of them accepted this invitation and continue to collaborate on this project, while sharing their experiences and feedback to help future guideline developers.



### Overview of the next 6 months

#### 1. Drafting the Explanation & Elaboration (E&E) document (December 2022- March 2022)

Teams of writers and reviewers will draft texts for the Explanation & Elaboration (E&E) document, which for each item includes:

- An explanation why an item is important to report
- Essential elements and possibly additional elements
- Examples of good reporting from existing systematic reviews of outcome measurement instruments

#### 2. Piloting the guideline and user manual (Q2, 2023)

The draft PRISMA-COSMIN guideline, consisting of the checklist and E&E will be pilot tested by researchers and clinicians in various disease areas. They will apply the COSMIN guideline to systematic reviews of outcome measurement instruments in their field and provide feedback on the usability and user-satisfaction of the PRISMA-COSMIN guideline. They will also indicate whether each reporting item is relevant and understandable, and whether the checklist is comprehensive. We welcome individuals who are willing to pilot the guideline! Contact Ellen Elsmann if you know pilot testers or want to pilot test yourself ([ellen.elsman@sickkids.ca](mailto:ellen.elsman@sickkids.ca)).

#### PILOT TESTERS NEEDED!

- Pilot testers can be **authors who are drafting or have recently published a report** of their systematic review of outcome measurement instruments
- Students of relevant courses** can be asked if they want to be involved in pilot testing the checklist and E&E
- Pilot testers can pilot our draft deliverables starting February/March 2023
- Pilot testers provide feedback using our structured, online survey
- Pilot testers should ideally not have participated in the Delphi study