



Background

Patients should become the centre of the healthcare system. Information is increasingly diverse and easily accessible.

Adapting the information to the patients' features and to their point of view is essential for their empowerment.

However, there is a significant variability between diseases in the research and elaboration of validated methods to evaluate, quantify and compare needs of information.



Purpose:

The aim of this study was firstly to carry out a **pilot test to validate a questionnaire that analyzes the information needed** by patients that visited the Outpatient Pharmaceutical Care Unit (OPCU) of a Hospital.

Secondly, to obtain a tool that indicates what information they want to receive and what they do not, and from which sources of information.



Material and Method

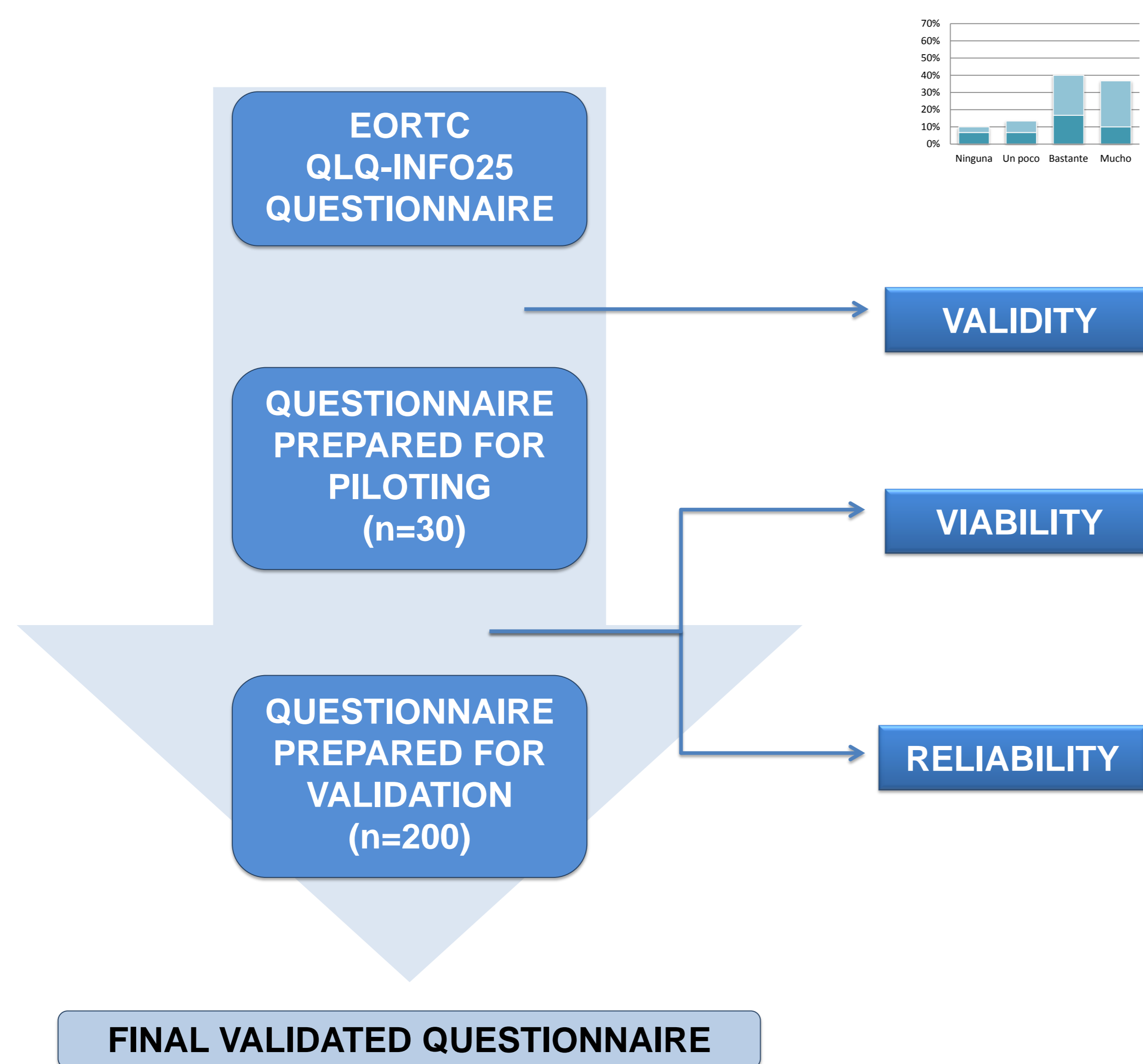
The **internationally validated EORTC QLQ-INFO25 questionnaire*** was used. In order to be used in different illnesses, changes according to validity, viability and reliability criteria were made.

The questionnaire was filled by 30 adult outpatients when they were going to receive their medications, excluding oncology patients.

EORTC QLQ-INFO25 QUESTIONNAIRE*

- ✓ Internationally validated.
- ✓ It evaluates the level of information that oncologic patients have received.
- ✓ It is structured in six main areas:
 1. Illness
 2. Medical exams
 3. Treatment
 4. Other services (management outside the hospital)
 5. Other areas (more individual aspects)
 6. Qualitative aspects (satisfaction)

*Arraras JJ, Greimel E, Sezer O, Chie WC, Bergenmar M, Costantini A, et al. An international validation study of the EORTC QLQ-INFO25 questionnaire: An instrument to assess the information given to cancer patients. Eur J Cancer. Elsevier; 2010;46(15):2726-38.



Results

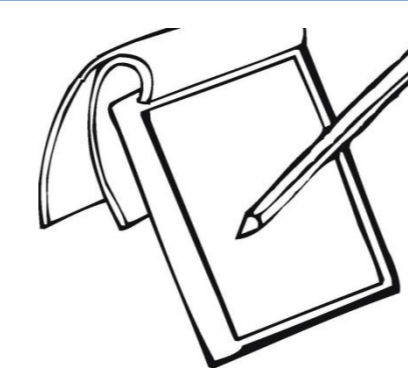
An **expert committee** suggested appropriate changes to ensure that items were representative for the new target population.

Was assessed by **conducting the questionnaire**.

It was considered necessary a simplification, by eliminating items and modifying statements.

Many patients raised doubts that had not been outstretched previously and were solved.

Cronbach's alpha statistical analysis indicated that reliability was high, as well as the items that could be eliminated if needed.



Conclusions

QUESTIONNAIRE PREPARED FOR VALIDATION (n=200)

According to the answers obtained during the piloting:

- Patients prefer to be informed by specialist, followed by the rest of health professionals.
- They are satisfied with the quantity, quality and usefulness of the information received. However, they would like to receive more information about treatment and improvement of their quality of life.

- ✓ It was obtained through relevant modifications based on observational criteria (viability) and statistics (reliability).
- ✓ It consists of 1-15 common items and 16-17 specific for Neurology or Rheumatology.
- ✓ Two sections were added: "Variables of interest" and "Preferred sources of information".



Ethical considerations

This study was approved by the **Ethical Committee of Clinical Investigation (CEIC) IDC in Catalonia**. Written informed consent were obtained from the patients before conducting the study. Patients were told that their participation was voluntary and confidential. Finally, the authors have no conflict of interest to declare.



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