Tools for Assessing Outcomes in Studies of Chronic Cough

CHEST Guideline and Expert Panel Report

Louis-Philippe Boulet, MD, FCCP; Remy R. Coeytaux, MD, PhD; Douglas C. McCrory, MD, MHS; Cynthia T. French, PhD, RN, FCCP; Anne B. Chang, MBBS, PhD, MPH; Surinder S. Birring, MBChB, MD; Jaclyn Smith, MBChB, PhD; Rebecca L. Diekemper, MPH; Bruce Rubin, MD, MEngr, MBA; and Richard S. Irwin, MD, Master FCCP; on behalf of the CHEST Expert Cough Panel

CHEST 2015; 147(3):804–814
### COI Grid: Cough Assessment Tools

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommendation or Suggestion</th>
<th>Louis-Philippe Boulet, MD, FCCP</th>
<th>Remy Coeytaux, MD, PhD</th>
<th>Douglas C. McCrory MD, MHS</th>
<th>Cynthia French, MS, APRN, BC</th>
<th>Ann Bernadette Chang, MBBS, MPH</th>
<th>Surinder Birring, MB ChB, MD</th>
<th>Jaclyn Smith, MB ChB, PhD</th>
<th>Bruce Rubin, MEng, MD, MBA</th>
<th>Richard Irwin, MD, Master FCCP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

1. In adult and adolescent patients (≥ 14 years of age) complaining of chronic cough, we recommend that validated and reliable health-related quality of life (QoL) questionnaires be used as the measurement of choice to assess the impact of cough on patients. (Grade 1B)

- None
- None
- None
- None
- None
- Member of Advisory Panel for the AHRQ systematic review on assessing cough severity plus reviewer of the final AHRQ document
- Did not vote due to conflict of interest (Developer of adult QoL and cough counting tools)
- None
- None
- Co-developer and co-copyright holder of CQLQ and received $500 2.5 years ago from investigators who have used the CQLQ, which has helped defray the costs of continuing to improve the CQLQ. Member of Advisory Panel for the AHRQ systematic review on assessing cough severity plus reviewer of the final AHRQ document
2. In adults and adolescents with chronic cough, we recommend the CQLQ and LCQ, as they are the most extensively studied and commonly used previously validated and reliable cough specific health-related QoL questionnaires to assess the impact of cough. (Grade 1B)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>None</th>
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3. In children (< 14 years of age) with chronic cough, we recommend that validated and reliable, health-related QoL questionnaires be used as the measurement of choice to assess the impact of cough. (Grade 1B)

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4. In children (< 14 years of age) with chronic cough, we recommend the PC-QOL, the most extensively studied and commonly used previously validated and reliable health-related QoL questionnaire, as the measurement of choice to assess the impact of cough. (Grade 1B)

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Co-developer of the copyright PC-QOL. Member of Advisory Panel for the AHRQ systematic review on assessing cough severity plus reviewer of the final AHRQ document

5. To standardize the development, utilization, and reporting of cough specific QoL questionnaires, we suggest that cough counting alone not be utilized to establish validity of the questionnaires. (CB)

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(Co-developer of the adult QoL and cough counting tools)

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6. To standardize the development, use and reporting of cough severity by visual analogue scales (VAS) or numeric rating scales, we suggest that they be used in standard fashion. (CB)

| None | None | None | None | None | None | None | None |

7. To ensure the integrity of health-related QoL questionnaires and other patient-reported outcomes that have been shown to be valid and reliable, we suggest that a modified version should not be used and reported unless the modified version has been shown to be reliable and valid. (CB)

| None | None | None | None | Co-developer of the copyright PC-QOL. Member of Advisory Panel for the AHRQ systematic review on assessing cough severity plus reviewer of the final AHRQ document | None | None | None |

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Did not vote due to conflict of interest (Developer of adult QoL and cough counting tools).
8. In adult and adolescent patients with cough of any duration, we suggest that tussigenic challenges have a role in research settings to understand mechanisms of cough.

(CB)

| None | None | None | None | Have conducted studies on capsaicin challenges | None | None | None |

9. In patients of all ages, we recommend acoustic cough counting to assess cough frequency but not cough severity. (Grade 1B)

None | None | None | None | Have conducted studies on cough counting. Co-developer of the copyright PC-QOL. Member of Advisory Panel for the AHRQ systematic review on assessing cough severity plus reviewer of the final AHRQ document | Did not vote due to conflict of interest (Developer of adult QoL and cough counting tools) | Did not vote due to conflict of interest (named inventor on patent) | None |

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Conflict of Interest Grid: This spreadsheet is used to keep track of which panelists have conflicts of interests relevant to which recommendations. It allows staff and panel leadership to prevent voting by conflicted panelists whose conflicts are being managed.

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