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**The sensitivity of EQ-5D index in predicting the health related quality of life of Type 2 diabetic patients attending two tertiary healthcare facilities in south eastern Nigeria**

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Background: The EQ-5D instrument is about the most prominent and commonly used generic measure for assessing the health related quality of life (HRQL) in health outcomes studies globally. Although the instrument has been employed in assessing the HRQL of diabetic patients in many studies, it is not known to have been used in Nigeria.

Objective: This study was carried out to assess the sensitivity of the EQ-5D instrument in predicting the HRQL of a sample of patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus (T2DM) in two tertiary healthcare facilities in Nigeria.

Methods: A cross-sectional study was conducted using the EQ-5D-3L instrument to assess the self-reported HRQL of patients diagnosed with T2DM attending two tertiary healthcare facilities in south eastern Nigeria, who consented to and completed the questionnaires while waiting to see a doctor. A priori hypotheses were examined using multiple regression analysis to model the relationship between the dependent variables (EQ VAS and EQ-5D Index) and hypothesized independent variables.

Results: A total of 226 patients with T2DM participated in the study. The average age of participants was 57 years (±10 years) and 61.1 % were male. The EQ VAS score and EQ-5D index averaged 66.19 (±15.42) and 0.78 (±0.21) respectively. Number of diabetic complications, comorbidities, patient’s age and being educated predicted EQ VAS score by −6.76, −6.15, −0.22, and 4.51 respectively. Similarly, the number of diabetic complications, co-morbidities, patient’s age and being educated predicted the EQ-5D index by −0.12, −0.07, −0.003, and 0.06 respectively.

Conclusion: Findings indicate the ability of the EQ-5D index to adequately capture the burden of Type 2 diabetes and related complications among the sampled patients.