## METHOD FOR TRANSLATING THE AGREE-HS

The methods used for translating and assessing the quality of translations of the AGREE-HS was derived from previous work on the translation of evaluation instruments. The method for translating the AGREE-HS follows the procedures outlined below in five consecutive steps:

1. Translation from English into the host language independently by two translators. The mother tongue of both translators should be the host language. At least one of the translators should be familiar with guideline development, evaluation or related methodologies.

**2.** The resultant two translations in the host language should be examined by a small working group to work out differences and discrepancies between the two versions and arrive at a consensual first draft translation.

**3.** The first draft translation should be back-translated from the host language into English by two translators. These translators should be of English mother tongue. They should not have participated in the first phase of translation and should not be familiar with AGREE-HS.

**4.** Discrepancies between the original English and the back-translated English version of the AGREE-HS should then be examined. This serves to identify ambiguities in the translation (or the original) and to clarify those ambiguities for the definitive translation in the host language.

**5.** The final translation should be circulated to external expert(s) for comments (optional).

The translation of the AGREE-HS from English to another language is the responsibility of the translator(s). The AGREE Research Trust has provided a method to guide the translation process and a checklist to be completed by the translator(s) to ensure the method has been followed. The AGREE Research Trust makes no representation or guarantees of any kind whatsoever regarding the accuracy, content or use or application of any translated AGREE-HS and disclaims any for their application or use in any way.

## **Key Articles and Reports that Discuss Methods for Translating Surveys into Multiple Languages**

Beaton DE, Bombardier C, Guillemin F, and Ferraz MB. Recommendations for the Cross-Cultural Adaptartion of Health Status Measures. Rosemont (IL): American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons; revised 2002.

Behling O, Law KS. Translating Questionnaires and Other Research Instruments: Problems and Solutions. Thousand Oak, CA: Sage Publications Inc. 2000: pp 63.

Forsyth BH, Kudela MS, Levin K, Lawrence D, and Willis GB. Improving Questionnaire Translations and Translations Processes. Paper presented at 2006, European Conference on Quality in Survey Statistics, April 25, 2006. Cardiff, Wales, UK.

Harkness J. Penne BE, Schoua-Glusberg, A. Survey Questionnaire Translation and Assessment. In: Presser S, Rothgeb J, Couper M, et al. Methods for Testing and Evaluating Survey Questionnaires. Hoboken, N.J.: John Wiley & Sons, Inc. 2004: 453-473.

Guillemin F, Bombardier C. Beaton D. Cross-Cultural Adaptation of Health-Related Quality of Life Measures: Literature Review and Proposed Guidelines. Journal of Clinical Epedimiology, 1993: 465: 1417-1432.

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Harkness J and Schoua-Glusberg A. Questionnaires in Translations. Xuma-Nachrichten Spezial 1998; Jan: 87-126.

Hunt SM, Bhopal R. Self report in clinical and epidemiological studies with non-English speakers: the challenge of language and culture. Journal of Epidemiological Community Health 2004, 58, 618-622.

Keller, SD, Ware JE, Gandek B, Aaronson NK, Alonso J, et al. Testing the Equivalence of Translations of Widely Used Response Choice Labels: Results from the IQOLA Project. Journal of Epidemiology 1998, 51 (11): 933-944.

Smith, TW. Developing and Evaluating Cross-National Survey Instruments. In: Presser S, Rothgeb J, Couper M, et al. Methods for Testing and Evaluating Survey Questionnaires. Hoboken, N.J.: John Wiey & Sons, Inc. 2004: 431-452.

Solano-Flores W, Hurtado M, et al. CAHPS Guidelines for Assessing and Selecting Translators and Reviewers. CAHPS II Cultural Comparability Team, Jan 2005.

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