

**Title**

Translation, back translation and pre-testing of a COST Action IS1406 practitioner survey in Icelandic

Authors

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Background

Information about intervention for children with language impairment between various countries is not easily available and sometimes difficult to get a picture of the service provided in different countries.

Aim

The purpose of this study is to translate the COST Action IS1406 practitioner survey in Icelandic.

Material and methods

The implementation of the translation process was based on guidelines from Beaton et al. (2000) and the MAPI Research Institute on translating measuring instruments. The method used involves forward translation, expert review, back translation and pre-test on three Icelandic speech and language pathologists.

Results

Some complications arose when translating specific items in Icelandic. The experts' reviews addressed mainly wording/phrasing or word choices and the importance of consistency in word order and meaning between translations. The comparison between the back translation and the original text showed very little semantic or syntactic differences. Results from pre-testing showed that most comments from participants were related to the particular instructions that followed every section. Participants thought that the instructions should be more detailed.

Conclusions

There are many aspects to consider when translating instruments like this survey, especially where the goal is to administer the same list in many different languages. It is very important to use accredited methods and also to give a detailed description of the process so that it is possible to evaluate the method while assessing the quality of the translation. Results show that some items and wording need to be changed before this survey is used for the Icelandic target group.