

Sup. 1: EORTC QLQ-C30

The QLQ-C30 is composed of both multi-item scales and single-item measures. These include five functional scales, three symptom scales, a global health status / QoL scale, and six single items. Each of the multi-item scales includes a different set of items - no item occurs in more than one scale. All of the scales and single-item measures range in score from 0 to 100. A high scale score represents a higher response level. Thus a high score for a functional scale represents a high / healthy level of functioning, a high score for the global health status / QoL represents a high QoL, but a high score for a symptom scale / item represents a high level of symptomatology / problems.

EORTC QLQ-C30	Scale name	Number of items	Item range
Global health status	QL2	2	6
Functional scales	Physical functioning	PF2	5
	Role functioning	RF2	2
	Emotional functioning	EF	4
	Cognitive functioning	CF	2
	Social functioning	SF	2
Symptom scales / items	Fatigue	FA	3
	Nausea and vomiting	NV	2
	Pain	PA	2
	Dyspnoea	DY	1
	Insomnia	SL	1
	Appetite loss	AP	1
	Constipation	CO	1
	Diarrhoea	DI	1
Financial difficulties	FI	1	

Sup. 2: EORTC QLQ-H&N35

The head & neck cancer module (EORTC QLQ-H&N35) incorporates seven multi-item scales that assess pain, swallowing, senses (taste and smell), speech, social eating, social contact and sexuality. There are also eleven single items. All of the scales and single-item measures range in score from 0 to 100. For all items and scales, high scores indicate more problems.

EORTC QLQ-H&N35		Scale name	Number of items	Item range
Symptom scales / items	Pain	HNPA	4	3
	Swallowing	HNSW	4	3
	Senses problems	HNSE	2	3
	Speech problems	HNSP	3	3
	Trouble with social eating	HNSO	4	3
	Trouble with social contact	HNSC	5	3
	Less sexuality	HNSX	2	3
	Teeth	HNTE	1	3
	Opening mouth	HNOM	1	3
	Dry mouth	HNDR	1	3
	Sticky saliva	HNSS	1	3
	Coughing	HNCO	1	3
	Felt ill	HNFI	1	3
	Pain killers	HNPBK	1	1
	Nutritional supplements	HNNU	1	1
	Feeding tube	HNFE	1	1
	Weight loss	HNWL	1	1
Weight gain	HNWG	1	1	