Quality of life (QoL) and Health-related QoL (HRQoL) instruments for use in cats with chronic pain

There are few QoL and HRQoL instruments that have been developed and validated for use in cats. They are used for the assessment of both the physical and emotional well-being of the cat. Also known by questionnaires, scales or tools, these instruments are either generic, which can be applied to any chronic disease, including chronic pain, or disease-specific. Below, you will find information on these instruments.

**GENERIC INSTRUMENTS**

1. **VetMetrica HRQL for cats**
   - A web-based generic HRQoL instrument for cats with chronic disease. It contains 20 items divided into 3 domains: ‘vitality’, ‘comfort’ and ‘emotional wellbeing’.
   - The VetMetrica HRQL for cats was developed by NewMetrica and is available for use in clinical practice and research based on paid subscription. A series of webinars explaining the validation process of this and other instruments, as well as their use and findings from scientific studies are available at NewMetrica’s website: [http://www.newmetrica.com/demo-videos/](http://www.newmetrica.com/demo-videos/)

2. **Cat HEalth and Wellbeing (CHEW)**
3. Feline QoL measure

- The Feline QoL measure instrument is not available for download. Development of the tool resulted in 16 items divided into two domains: ‘healthy behaviours’ and ‘clinical signs’. These can be visualized in Figure 5 and Table 4 from the original article.

DISEASE-SPECIFIC INTRUMENTS

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