

# Inclusion or exclusion of children and youth with disabilities and chronic diseases from studies assessing measurement properties of physical activity questionnaires: a literature review

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While diverse populations (e.g., age, sex, race/ethnicity, and class) have been included in studies assessing the psychometric properties of physical activity (PA) questionnaires, children with disabilities and chronic diseases (DACD) have often been excluded. This review aimed to explore: 1) to what extent inclusion/exclusion of children with DACD was reported in the literature assessing the psychometric properties of PA questionnaires; 2) what are the most excluded DACD; and 3) did the percentage of papers reporting inclusion/exclusion of children with DACD changed over time. We reviewed all papers included in previous systematic reviews (Hidding et al., 2018; Chinapaw et al., 2010) and our ongoing systematic review (Rostami Haji Abadi et al., forthcoming), which all summarized the psychometric properties of PA questionnaires for children (mean age  $\leq 18$  years) using the QAPAQ or COSMIN methodology. We included 210 papers (2010 = 43; 2018 = 79; forthcoming = 88). Overall, 53 papers (25%) reported if they included/excluded children with disabilities (16%) and chronic diseases (14%), with 19 papers (9%) reporting both. Eight papers (4%) excluded all children with disabilities, and 7 papers (3%) excluded all chronic diseases. Twenty-three papers excluded only children that have disabilities (n=17) and chronic diseases (n=6) that limited normal daily PA. More papers in our review (32%) reported inclusion/exclusion of children with DACD compared to previous reviews (15% and 7%;  $\chi^2=13.12$ ;  $p=0.001$ ); however, exclusions were more commonly reported in more recent papers ( $\chi^2=6.87$ ;  $p=0.032$ ). Future studies should include more children with DACD and clarify if they include/exclude these populations. (Funding: Canadian Institutes of Health Research).