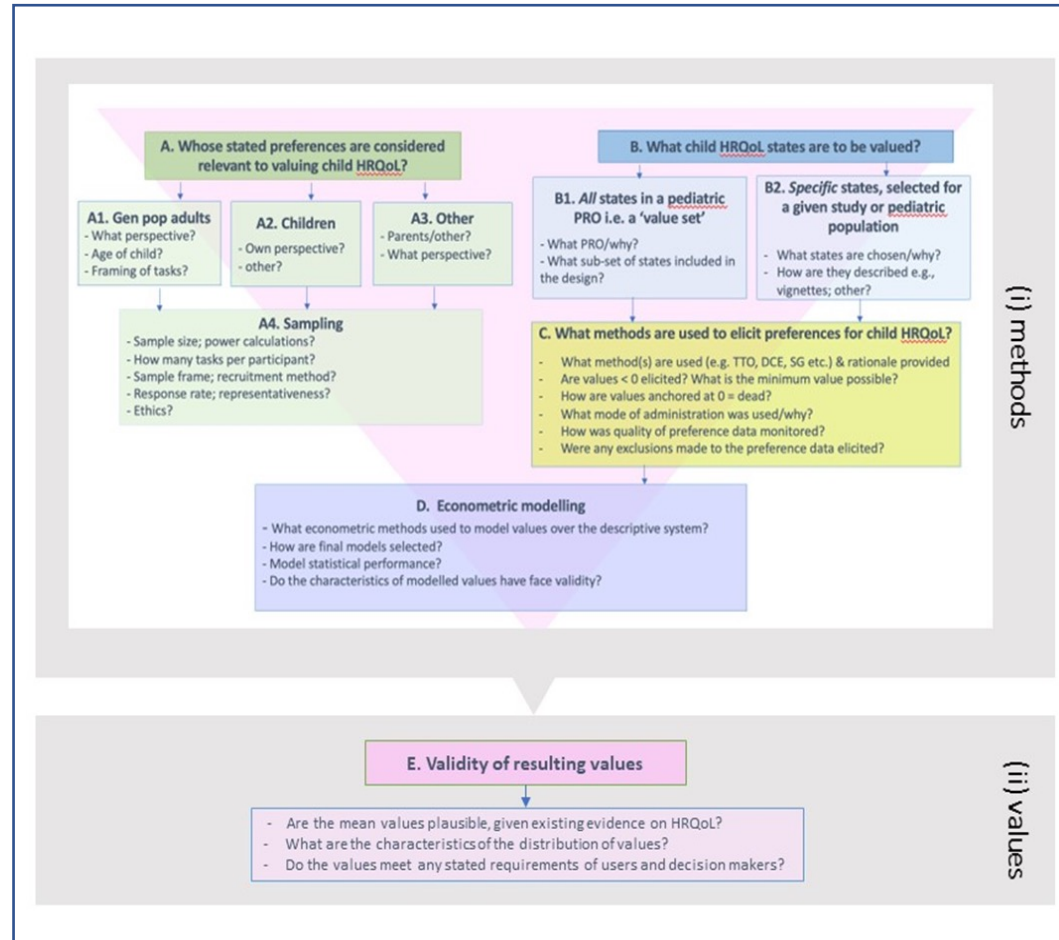


Background and Aims Child Health-related quality of life (HRQoL) measures and their value sets use varying methods for eliciting and modeling values for child HRQoL and resulting value sets have different characteristics. Poor and incomplete reporting makes it difficult for users to make informed choices about value sets. We aimed to develop a checklist for studies generating values for child HRQoL. The checklist could be applied to values used in cost effectiveness models of paediatric interventions directly elicited for disease-specific states or vignettes as well as those from value sets for childhood PROMs.

Methods

A conceptual model was developed that provided a modular structure for the checklist. The modules are grouped by (i) methods (modules A-D) and (ii) values (module E). A long list of potential items for each 'method' module was obtained from a recent review of checklists for adult HRQoL values (Zoratti et al 2021), complemented by the generation of additional items specific to child HRQoL values, developed by the team and extracted from recent reviews of the relevant methods literature. Checklist items relating to characteristics of values were based on theoretical papers on external validity of stated preference data (e.g., Lancsar and Swait 2014) and papers reporting methods for examining the distribution of 'theoretical' values in value sets (e.g., Pan et al 2021). The long list of items was reduced by eliminating duplication; and then refined to strengthen relevance and clarity via an iterative process.



Results

- The resulting checklist contains modules aimed at reporting methods (A-D) and the characteristics of values (E).
- These modules are populated with a total of 81 items; which modules and sub-set of these items are relevant to use depends on the type of valuation study to which the checklist is applied.
- A unique feature of the checklist is the inclusion of a module (E) addressing validity
- The resulting checklist was tested by applying it to a range of papers selected from those reported in Kwon et al (2022) and Bailey et al (2022), including recently published EQ-5D-Y value sets.

Conclusions

This is the first checklist for child HRQoL values. Its modular structure means that in principle it can be applied to assessing value sets as well as values generated from other types of studies eliciting values for child health states. The inclusion of items relating to characteristics of values is novel and potentially has broader relevance (e.g., to future checklists for adult utilities). The checklist has the potential to improve completeness in the reporting of child values, as well as providing a tool to help users to assess and compare the characteristics of available value sets.