

Implementation of an online PROM in Private Practice in the UK

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Purpose

The benefits of collecting patient reported outcome measure (PROM) data in routine practice to help demonstrate the effectiveness of treatment is well known, however challenges including technical and logistical barriers have limited adoption. Having the means to collect PROM data independently reported by patients can provide useful unbiased information for physiotherapists.

This poster describes and reports on data collected nationally from an online PROM for patients attending physiotherapy treatment for a musculoskeletal condition in private practices across the UK.



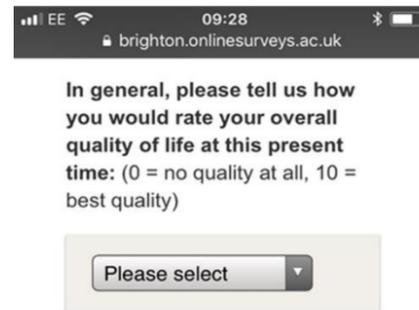
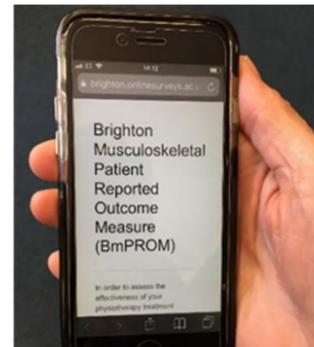
Results

109 physiotherapists were recruited to the online BmPROM data collection. Pre-treatment BmPROM data were collected from 1,626 patients (841 females, 785 males) and of these, 684 patients (42.1%) had a corresponding post-treatment data set.

The mean age of all patients was 51.0 (SD=17.7; range 18-92 years). Details of the BmPROM scores are shown in table 1. Higher BmPROM scores indicate an increased amount of functionality and wellbeing. Paired sample t-tests demonstrated significant improvements in patients' wellbeing ($m=-3.45$, $SD=2.14$, $t=-42.02$, $p<.00$) and functionality ($m=-2.70$, $SD=2.14$, $t=-42.02$, $p<.00$).

Table 1: BmPROM pre-treatment, post-treatment and change scores (mean & SD)

	<i>n</i> =	Wellbeing PRE	Wellbeing POST	Wellbeing CHANGE	<i>p</i>	Functionality PRE	Functionality POST	Functionality CHANGE	<i>p</i>
All patients	684	5.35 (2.06)	8.80 (1.63)	3.45 (2.14)	$p<.00$	6.09 (2.10)	8.83 (1.46)	2.74 (2.19)	$p<.00$
Female	348	5.08 (2.14)	8.58 (1.77)	3.50 (2.26)		6.13 (2.15)	8.74 (1.51)	2.61 (2.19)	
Male	336	5.63 (1.93)	9.02 (1.42)	3.39 (2.01)		6.05 (2.06)	8.92 (1.41)	2.87 (2.18)	



Methods

This study was nested within a larger national data collection project across private physiotherapy practices in the UK. Ethical approval was provided for this project by the University of Brighton.

The Brighton musculoskeletal Patient Reported Outcome Measure (BmPROM) is an eight-item generic outcome measure developed for clinical practice to evaluate the effectiveness of physiotherapy treatment for musculoskeletal conditions¹. The BmPROM has two subscales measuring wellbeing and functionality. The BmPROM was set up online through Bristol Online Surveys.

Participating physiotherapists asked their patients to complete the BmPROM independently online pre- and post-treatment. Patients accessed the online BmPROM either at home (they were sent the link with instructions via email or text) or accessed the BmPROM in the clinic (on a tablet or computer set up for patient use in the reception area). Data were collected from March 2018 until September 2020.

Conclusions & Implications

Patient-reported data obtained through the online BmPROM demonstrated improvements in wellbeing and functionality for patients attending physiotherapy treatment in private practice. The online method used in this study provided a pragmatic and cost-effective method of collecting data.

The uptake and completion of the online PROM by patients of all ages is particularly encouraging however, further encouragement by practitioners may be necessary to facilitate more patients completing the PROM post-treatment.

Reference: Bryant E, Murtagh S, Finucane L et al. The Brighton musculoskeletal Patient-Reported Outcome Measure (BmPROM): An assessment of validity, reliability and responsiveness. *Physiother Res Int.* 2018; e1715. <https://doi.org/10.1002/pri.1715>

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