

## Abstract

Background: Unrelieved cancer pain remains a persistent and prevalent problem throughout the world. In Jordan, only limited research has been conducted concerning pain or pain management. Instruments to conduct such research have been lacking. Barriers Questionnaire-II (BQ-II) is used to evaluate eight attitudinal barriers to cancer pain management. Purpose: To evaluate the psychometric properties of the Arabic BQ-II (ABQ-II). A framework of attitudinal barriers and quality of life was used to guide this study. Methods: In this descriptive correlational study a convenience sample of 150 Jordanian adults were recruited from the outpatient cancer clinic at a regional comprehensive cancer center in Jordan. Patients completed the ABQ-II, the Arabic Brief-Pain-Inventory, Feasibility of ABQ-II, and demographic questions. Results: More than half of participants were male (61%), had a mean (SD) age of 44 (16.8) years and education of 14.5 (1.4) years. Factor analysis of the ABQ-II supported four factors. The ABQ-II total had an internal consistency of 0.85, and alpha for the subscales ranged from 0.60 to 0.81. Mean (SD) ABQ-II total score was 2.3 (0.8), on a scale of 0 to 5, with higher scores indicating stronger barriers. Older patients had significantly more barriers ( $r = .20$ ), and scored higher on concerns about harmful effects ( $r = .18$ ) and communication ( $r = .23$ ). Patients with higher education levels had significantly lower fatalistic beliefs ( $r = -.17$ ). Patients with higher barriers had significantly higher levels of worst pain ( $r = .22$ ). Pain interference with life activities was positively correlated with the fatalism subscale ( $r = .23$ ). The ABQ-II is a reliable, valid and feasible measure of patient-related barriers to cancer pain management. Conclusions: ABQ-II can be used in planning and testing interventions to understand and improve patient's attitudes to cancer pain management, and allow for cross-cultural comparisons.