

Response to validity of patient-reported outcome measures in atopic eczema/dermatitis

To the Editor,

We welcome the critique by Apfelbacher et al.¹ of our overview of patient-reported outcome measures (PROMS) in allergy and asthma clinical studies in children.² Our focus was on identifying valid instruments, and in so doing, we relied on our own detailed systematic reviews in relation to asthma and food allergy,³⁻⁵ recent evidence-based guidelines on PROMS in allergy,⁶ and systematic reviews undertaken by others in atopic eczema/dermatitis and allergic rhinitis.⁷ We agree that on a closer look at the primary evidence in relation to PROMs for atopic eczema/dermatitis, whilst there is some evidence of validation work in relation to Infants' Dermatitis Quality of Life Index (IDQOL),^{8,9} the overall validity of this instrument still remains to be established.

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