



This is to certify that the IQOLA Project has prepared a true translation from English (for the United States) into Arabic (for Saudi Arabia) of the SF-36[®] Health Survey and derivative forms, including the SF-36v2[®] Health Survey. The initial SF-36[®] Health Survey translation was developed using the standard IQOLA translation methodology, which involves multiple independent forward translations by native speakers; reconciliation of the translations into one form; backward translation of this translation into English to check for conceptual equivalence; individual qualitative debriefing interviews with a small number of native Arabic speakers in Saudi Arabia; and final proofreading.

The SF-36v2[®] Health Survey translation was developed following a similar process. Items from the existing SF-36[®] Health Survey translation were incorporated into the SF-36v2[®] Health Survey translation where possible. Two native Arabic-speaking consultants in Saudi Arabia independently translated the remaining SF-36v2[®] Health Survey items, and the two translations were reconciled into one initial forward translation. The newly translated items were backward translated into English, and the backward translation was discussed among the Saudi Arabian consultants and researchers in the United States, to arrive at a revised translation of the new items. The new SF-36v2[®] Health Survey items then were evaluated in individual qualitative debriefing interviews with a small number of native Arabic-speaking lay people in Saudi Arabia. Results from the debriefing interviews were discussed among the Saudi Arabian consultants and United States researchers, and final changes were made to the translation. The entire SF-36v2[®] Health Survey translation then went through a final proofreading.

Further details of the general IQOLA translation process can be found in the following peer-reviewed article:

Bullinger M, Alonso J, Apolone G, Lepège A, Sullivan M, Wood-Dauphinee S, et al.
Translating health status questionnaires and evaluating their quality: The International Quality of Life Assessment Project approach. *J Clin Epidemiol* 1998; 51:913-923.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Barbara Gandek'.

Barbara Gandek, M.S.
Director, IQOLA Project