

# Validation of the Support Needs Approach for Patients (SNAP) tool to enable patients with advanced COPD to identify and express their support needs to healthcare professionals



Care and support through terminal illness

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## Background

- Patient-identified need is key to delivering person-centred care in supportive and palliative care
- The Support Needs Approach for Patients (SNAP) tool aims to enable patients with advanced COPD to identify and express their support needs to healthcare professionals (HCPs), but its validity is unknown

Extract from the SNAP tool  
(Farquhar, Gardener & Ewing: March 2018)

## Aim

To establish the face, content and criterion validity of the SNAP tool for patients with advanced COPD

## Methods

Two-stage mixed method study involving patients with advanced COPD, and their informal carers:

### Stage 1:

- **Face and initial content validity**
  - Focus groups (n=2) involving patients and carers (n=12)
  - Discussion of layout, content and utility
  - Analysis: thematic analysis within a Framework Approach

### Stage 2:

- **Content validity**
  - Patient completion of SNAP tool
  - Analysis: range of unmet support needs identified
- **Criterion validity**
  - Concurrent completion of standard measures of COPD impact:
    - Chronic Respiratory Questionnaire (CRQ)<sup>1</sup>
    - COPD Assessment Test (CAT)<sup>2</sup>
    - Hospital Anxiety & Depression Scale (HADS)<sup>3</sup>
  - Correlation analysis: Spearman's Rank

## Results

### 1) Face and Initial Content Validity

- The SNAP tool has good face validity
- Patients and carers reported the tool as:
  - patient-friendly
  - potentially useful for talking about support needs with HCPs

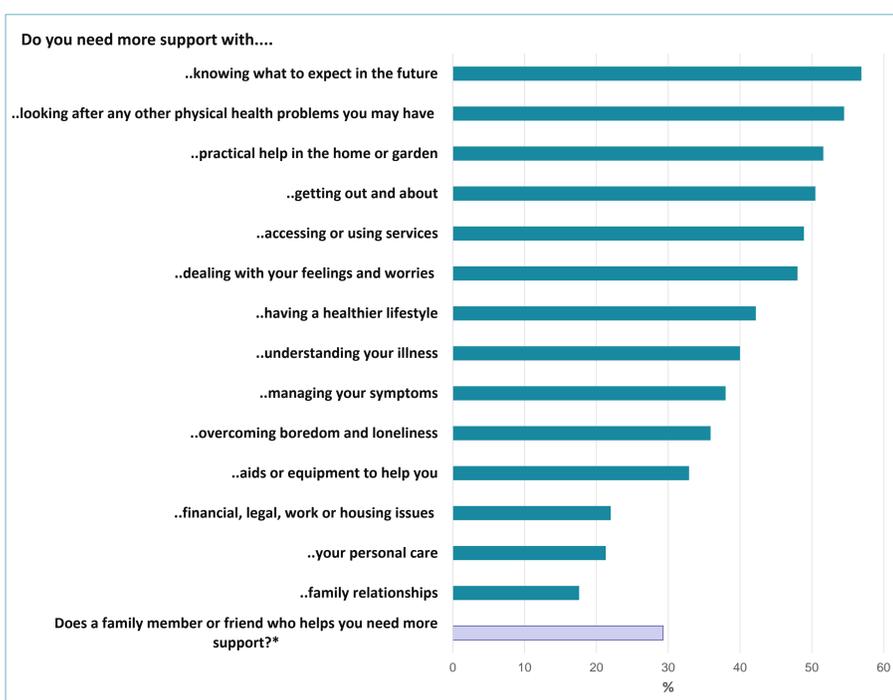
*'I think the layout is particularly good... It's the clarity of it... it's not threatening in any way' (FG1 S6)*

*'at a glance you can see where the problem is and then you can think about it rather than asking questions to find out' (FG1 S2)*

*'there's quite a few things on here that we don't know about... what's going to happen in the future and... what equipment we might need' (FG2 S5)*

### 2) Content Validity

- All 15 items were used
- No missing items



Percentage of patients expressing need for more support in each SNAP domain (n=218-225) \*(n=157)

### 3) Criterion Validity

- Clear correlations with majority of impact measures
- Shaded cells show stronger associations with disease impact

Do you need more support with.....	HADS anxiety score pt (computed)	HADS depression score pt (computed)	CAT score	CRQ physical domains	CRQ emotional domains
..knowing what to expect in the future ?	0.240**	0.248**	0.097	-0.148*	-0.318**
..looking after any other health problem you may have?	0.292**	0.242**	0.178**	-0.191**	-0.358**
..practical help in the home or garden?	0.239**	0.305**	0.299**	-0.341**	-0.318**
..getting out and about?	0.223**	0.412**	0.267**	-0.314**	-0.377**
..dealing with feelings and worries?	0.422**	0.351**	0.238**	-0.184**	-0.480**
..accessing or using services?	0.286**	0.285**	0.263**	-0.209**	-0.376**
..having a healthier lifestyle?	0.215	0.289**	0.106	-0.232**	-0.296**
..understanding your illness?	0.220**	0.249**	0.120	-0.133*	-0.325**
..managing your symptoms?	0.340**	0.324**	0.207**	-0.277**	-0.462**
..overcoming boredom or loneliness?	0.361**	0.390**	0.220**	-0.296**	-0.467**
..aids or equipment to help you ?	0.253**	0.244**	0.221**	-0.252**	-0.285**
..financial, legal work or housing ?	0.148*	0.171*	0.132	-0.080	-0.238**
..your personal care?	0.347**	0.407**	0.370**	-0.447**	-0.433**
..family relationships ?	0.273**	0.209**	0.070	-0.142*	-0.295**

Correlations between SNAP items and standard measures of disease impact in COPD  
Significant Spearman's rank correlations, two-tailed test, all significant correlations reported. \*Significant at the 0.05 level \*\*Significant at the 0.01 level (n=218-225)

## Conclusion

- The SNAP tool has good face, content and criterion validity

## Coming next

- Pilot implementation of SNAP in clinical practice



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References: Details of all references are provided on the poster handout

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