



International Society for Quality of Life Research

Volume 10 Issue 1

Newsletter for ISOQOL Members

May 2005

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

David Feeny, PhD
Edmonton, AB, Canada

The Nirvana Complex

We expect a lot from our measures of health-related quality of life. We want measures that are acceptable, impose minimal burdens, are reliable and valid, produce scores that are interpretable, and produce evidence to inform clinical, public health, and/or resource allocation policy. (It would be a big bonus if our measures could also convert tap water into Cabernet Sauvignon, Black Sheep Ale, and/or Black Butte Porter!) A reliable measure has low levels of random error. For group-level analyses, test-retest reliabilities of 0.70 are viewed as acceptable; for use in individual-level decision making, 0.90 or 0.95 are required (Revicki et al.; McHorney and Tarlov).

As ideal benchmarks these standards are more than appropriate. However, we also operate within systems that are imperfect and in situations in which information is often incomplete. Another way to frame the issue is how useful is the instrument in generating information relative to other potential sources of that information? Measures of health-related quality of life provide information on health status as perceived by the patients. Information provided by clinicians and other observers is typically not identical to patient report. Furthermore, many clinical measures and tests have less than ideal performance characteristics. For instance, Lyon et al. note that in spite of poor reproducibility (reproducible for < 60% of patients), oral glucose tolerance testing has been recommended by the Canadian Diabetes Association in their guidelines.

Typically, clinicians use multiple indicators in arriving at a diagnosis or a judgement about whether or not the patient is improving. Relatively few clinical decisions are made on the basis of the result from a single test. Do our ideal normative standards reflect an implicit assumption that the health-related quality of life score would be the only criterion for making a decision?

Getting a handle on the realistic value added of using measures of health-related quality of life then depends on comparing situations in which such information is and is not made available. In the context of using health-related quality of life measure to assist in the clinical management of patients, several teams of investigators (for instance, Velikova et al. and Detmar et al.) have done just that. Both sets of investigators find evidence that in the context of medical oncology, making patient-reported information available matters and may even affect patient outcome in some circumstances. The measures of health-related quality of life used in these studies were well-validated measures (for instance, both studies included the EORTC QLQ-C30) that might not, however, be deemed acceptable for use in individual-level decision making according to our normative rules of thumb. But what is the alternative? We can refrain from using measures because they do not meet ideal standards or we can carefully assess the potential benefits and harms of using measures with sound but less than ideal track records.

Enough! I hope that you find these musings provocative. Sessions being planned for the 12th Annual Meeting in San Francisco October 19-22, 2005 will provide the real answers to the

questions posed here. I look forward to seeing you there!

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Deadline for articles for our next issue is July 31, 2005

Send articles and/or suggestions to:
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AN INVITATION FROM THE 2005 SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Ron Hays, PhD
Los Angeles, CA, USA

The 2005 ISOQOL meeting, "Building Bridges to Enhance Quality of Life," will take place October 19-22 in San Francisco, CA at the Hyatt Regency Embarcadero. A variety of workshops will be offered on October 19 covering introduction to health-related quality of life assessment, preference/utility measurement, item response theory, longitudinal design and analysis, introduction to decision analysis, evaluating change in health-related quality of life, use of Bayesian analysis, and dynamic assessment of health-related quality of life.

The meeting will be kicked off on October 20 with a plenary talk by Dr. Robert Brook, Vice President, RAND, on "Measuring Health: Are We Ready for Prime Time?" In addition, we will have invited sessions on policy applications (Paul Kind, Galina Velikova, Michael Wolfson), health-related quality of life assessment in clinical practice (Michael Barry, David Cella, David Osoba), and hearing from stakeholders (government, accreditation organizations, patient advocate, clinical trialist).

There will be a coordinated presentation from the presidents of ISOQOL (David Feeny) and the Society for Medical Decision Making (Karen Kuntz) as well as joint paper and poster sessions from ISOQOL and the Society for Medical Decision Making on October 22th.

We look forward to seeing you all in San Francisco for a great meeting!

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: PRESIDENT'S AWARD

July 31, 2005 - Deadline for Nominations for the ISOQOL President's Award

The goal of this award is to recognize outstanding contributions (by an individual or group) to the advancement of the quality of life field in one or more of the following areas: "education of professionals, patients or lay individuals about the value of quality of life assessment as related to health;" "promotion or execution of quality of life research or other scholarly activities;" and "facilitating or furthering policy initiatives that impact upon health-related quality of life."

Please submit your nomination package consisting of 1) a letter from the nominator specifying the nominee's contributions, 2) the curriculum vitae of the nominee, and 3) an external support letter. The deadline for nominations is **July 31, 2005**.

Please mail, email or fax your nomination package to: **Dr. David Feeny**, President, ISOQOL Executive Office, 6728 Old McLean Village Drive, McLean, VA 22101 USA, Email: info@isoqol.org, or Fax: 703-556-8729.

The award will be selected by the ISOQOL Executive Committee and approved by the Board of Directors. The award will consist of a plaque, a \$1,000 honorarium and up to \$1,000 in travel expenses if the recipient plans to attend this year's Annual Conference in San Francisco, California, USA.



San Francisco, CA USA, site of the ISOQOL 2005 Annual Conference October 19 - 22

UPDATE TO NEWSLETTER ARTICLE FROM DECEMBER 2004 ISSUE: OUTSTANDING ARTICLE OF THE YEAR AWARD

Mirjam Sprangers, PhD
Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Editor's Note: Information on last year's ISOQOL Outstanding Article of the Year Award, presented at the Annual Meeting in Hong Kong, was inadvertently left out of the last issue of the Newsletter. We reproduce the article in its entirety below.

The ISOQOL "Outstanding Article of the Year Award" is given annually to recognize and honor the single best article dedicated to health-related quality of life research that was published in a peer-reviewed journal during the previous calendar year. This award recognizes the authors for significant intellectual contributions that promise to advance the state of the art in health-related quality of life research methods or theory.

This year, six high-quality papers were submitted for this award. These include: (1) Bjorner JB, Kosinski M, Ware JE. Calibration of an item pool for assessing the burden of headaches: an application of item response theory to the headache impact test (HIT). *Qual Life Res* 2003; 12: 913-33. (2) Crosby RD, Kolotkin RL, Williams GR. Defining clinically meaningful changes in health-related quality of life. *J Clin Epidem* 2003; 56: 395-407. (3) Efficace B, Bottomley A, Osoba D et al. Beyond the development of health-related quality of life (HRQOL) measures: A checklist for evaluating HRQOL outcomes in cancer clinical trials - does HRQOL evaluation in prostrate cancer research inform clinical decision-making? *J Clin Oncol* 2003; 21: 3502-11. (4) Norman GR, Sloan JA, Wyrwich KW. Interpretation of changes in health-related quality of life. *Med Care* 2003; 41: 582-92. (5) Schwartz CE, Meisenhelder JB, Ma

A et al. Altruistic social interest behaviors are associated with better mental health. *Psychosom Med* 2003; 65: 778-85. (6) Ware JE, Kosinski M, Bjorner JB et al. Applications of computerized adaptive testing (CAT) to the assessment of headache impact. *Qual Life Res* 2003; 12: 935-52.

These papers covered a wide range of important topics and each paper represented a significant intellectual contribution to the field of health-related quality of life.

This year's committee consisted of the three former ISOQOL presidents, including Ivan Barofsky, David Osoba, and Mirjam Sprangers (chair). We feel very pleased and honored to announce this year's recipients of the "Outstanding Article of the Year Award": Jakob Bjorner, Mark Kosinski, and John Ware for their paper "Calibration of an item pool for assessing the burden of headaches: an application of item response theory to the Headache Impact Test", published in *Quality of Life Research*.

This paper describes the development of an item pool that can be used for a computerized adaptive test of headache impact. The authors analyzed responses to four tests of headache impact from a population-based sample of recent headache sufferers. They used confirmatory factor analysis and analyses based on item response theory. They thus established a suitable item pool of 47 items. By simulating a computerized adaptive health test, they showed that the item pool could be used as a basis for a computerized adaptive test of headache impact.

The committee has chosen this paper as the single best article of 2003 for primarily two reasons. First, computerized adaptive testing is considered to be an issue of key importance, as it has potential advantages over traditional fixed-length tests in terms of precision, relevance, completion time involved, quality control, and flexibility. This paper documents the psychometric work underlying the development of the Headache Impact Test, the first computerized

adaptive test of any health outcome. Second, this paper provides the most detailed description of the development of an item pool for computerized assessment of health outcomes that has been published in the literature so far. Given its clarity and didactic, stepwise approach, this paper will pave the way for others who intend to build similar item pools. We therefore expect this paper to be seminal.

One final issue merits attention. This paper is part of a special issue of *Quality of Life Research*, including nine papers that combined, provide a comprehensive description of how item response theory and computer adaptive testing can be applied to the field of health-related quality of life. While we believe that this set of articles represents an outstanding contribution to our field, we have only reviewed the two submitted papers. We would like to recommend the entire special issue to those interested in this topic.

12th Annual Scientific Meeting of the International Society for Quality of Life Research (ISOQOL)

"Building Bridges to Enhance Quality of Life"
October 19-22, 2005

The Hyatt Regency
Embarcadero
San Francisco, CA, USA

Visit www.isoqol.org
for more details.

ANNOUNCING THE CALL FOR THE ISOQOL “OUTSTANDING ARTICLE OF THE YEAR” AWARD

ISOQOL will continue to award the Article of the Year Award to recognize and honor the single best article dedicated to health-related quality of life (HRQL) research that was published in a peer-reviewed journal during the previous calendar year. This award recognizes the author(s) for significant intellectual contributions that promise to advance the state of the art in HRQL research methods or theory. The ISOQOL Article of the Year Award will be presented during the award ceremony at the annual meeting of the Society. The first author of the winning article will receive a plaque and the other authors will receive a certificate recognizing the outstanding research. In addition, four new ISOQOL memberships will be available to the winners, to be distributed at their discretion.

Any HRQL research article written by any author(s) that was published for the first time during the previous calendar year in a peer reviewed journal, will be eligible if nominated for this award by an active member of ISOQOL. Any ISOQOL member may nominate an article by completing and submitting a nomination package. Self-nomination is permitted. If more than one person nominates a particular published article for this award, a Lead Nominator will be assigned to assemble all nomination documents, submit the nomination package, and serve as the correspondent for all questions regarding the nomination. The deadline to submit a nomination is **July 15, 2005**.

For each nomination, a Nomination Package consisting of the following should be submitted to the ISOQOL Article of the Year Taskforce (Note: materials that are submitted with the nomination CANNOT be returned):

1. A complete copy of the published article must accompany the nomination.

2. A nomination letter should be provided that states why the article represents an outstanding contribution to the field of HRQL and describes how it advances HRQL research, clinical application or affects health policy.

3. Nomination will identify the author(s) and provide the full citation for the article.

The ISOQOL Board of Directors will appoint a Jury of ISOQOL members and a Jury Chair to serve as reviewers for this award. Jury members will be chosen based on their expertise in areas addressed in the articles submitted. If an article written by a member of the jury panel is nominated for the award, that Jury member will be removed from the Jury for the current year and the Board of Directors will appoint another ISOQOL member to serve on the Jury in his or her place.

After each member of the Jury reviews each article, the Jury will recommend the single article that promises to be the most significant advancement to HRQL research from all those nominated each year based on its scientific quality and societal relevance.

Should you have any questions regarding the Article of the Year award, please contact the ISOQOL Executive Office at info@isoqol.org or call 703-556-9222.

DO YOU HAVE MEMBER NEWS TO SHARE?

This column about ISOQOL members will appear as often as there is news worthy of note. Members are encouraged to submit information about new positions, awards, assignments, and memberships of themselves and/or their colleagues.

Please keep announcements brief, i.e., one or two short paragraphs. Given space limitations, the editor reserves the right to abbreviate contributions exceeding the recommended length.

MEMBER NEWS

Luis Prieto, PhD from Madrid Spain, has joined SERONO IBERIA as Health Economics Manager for Spain and Portugal.

Barbara L. Andersen, Professor of Psychology at the Ohio State University, was inducted as a Fellow in the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) at the annual meeting in Washington DC in February 2005. She is also recently received the John P. Minton Hero of Hope Award from the Ohio division of the American Cancer Society for her lifetime achievements and contributions in cancer research.

Susan Bauer-Wu, DNSc, RN, director of The Phyllis F. Cantor Center for Research in Nursing & Patient Care Services at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston, MA, and Instructor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School, is the 2005 recipient of the Oncology Nursing Foundation's Mara Mogensen Flaherty Memorial Lectureship Award. This annual award is given to nurses and other health care professionals who have demonstrated sustained and significant contributions in the field of psychosocial oncology. Bauer-Wu will deliver a keynote lecture entitled, "Seeds of Hope, Blossoms of Meaning," at the Oncology Nursing Society's 30th Annual Congress in April.

Dorothy Keininger has accepted a position as Manager, Health Economics with Ovation Research Group, a leading health economics and outcomes research firm. Building on her economics training at The University of Arizona and her experience with the Mapi Group, Dorothy has responsibility for health economics-related research studies, reports, and models in support of new and existing healthcare technologies.

ISOQOL WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

Karine Barrau
Marseille, France

Peter Bruce, MA
Arlington, VA

Yuan Yuan Cheng
Perth, Australia

Kuan-Chun Chuang
Taipei, Taiwan

Carolyn Czoski Murray, MSc
Sheffield, United Kingdom

Amylou Dueck, MS
Mesa, AZ

M. Haim Erder, PhD
Jersey City, NJ

Sepideh Farivar, MPH
Thousand Oaks, CA

Charu Gandhi, DPM
Bangalore, India

Ashu Rajan Gandhi, MD
Bangalore, India

Tiecheng Guo, MD
Wuhan, China

Mark P. Haggard, PhD
Cambridge, United Kingdom

Cheryl Hankin, PhD
San Jose, CA

Janel Hanmer, MD, PhD
Madison, WI

Yuantao Hao, PhD
Guangzhou, China

Kim Hawkins, MSc
Leeds, United Kingdom

Amy P.Y. Ho, PhD
Hong Kong, China

Zorianna Hyworon, BSc
Winnipeg, MB, Canada

Faustina Idu
Benin, Nigeria

Edward Ip, PhD
Winston-Salem, NC

Maria Koltowska-Haggstrom, MD
Uppsala, Sweden

Eiji Kusumi, MD
Tokyo, Japan

Chi Ching Law, FRCR
Hong Kong, China

Alain Lepage, MD
Amiens, France

Karen Leyton, MBA
Wallingford, CT

Fengbin Liu, PhD
Guangzhou, China

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Buenos Aires, Argentina

Wing Chit Mak, MBChB
Hong Kong, China

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Marseille, France

Richard Sawatzky, MSN
Langley, BC, Canada

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Aberdeen, United Kingdom

Wendy Shore, PhD
Adelphi, MD

Kimberly Skarupski, PhD
Chicago, IL

Dell Kingsford Smith
North Ryde, Australia

Jun Su, MD, MSc
Wallingford, CT

Yoshimi Suzukamo, PhD
Kyoto, Japan

Edwin Tsang, Mphil
Hong Kong, China

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Uyo-AKS, Nigeria

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Groningen, The Netherlands

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Norfolk, VA

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Berlin, Germany

Lillian Yu-Jen Wang, MSc
Taipei, Taiwan

Eric Wery, MPH
Braine-L'Alleud, Belgium

Amanda Wheeler, PGDipPsy
Auckland, New Zealand

Jill M. Winters, PhD
Milwaukee, WI

Sau Han Yau, FRCR
Hong Kong, China

Michael Yin, BA
Taipei, Taiwan

ASSESSING QUALITY OF LIFE IN CLINICAL TRIALS METHODS AND PRACTICE



ISOQOL members Peter Fayers, PhD, Department of Public Health, Aberdeen Medical School and Ron Hays, PhD, Division of GIM and Health Services Research, UCLA School of Medicine have edited a Second Edition of *Assessing Quality of Life in Clinical Trials: Methods and Practice*, published April 2005.

Researchers in all clinical fields are fully aware of the importance of Quality of Life measurements in judging the efficacy of a given treatment. Psychological criteria play an important role in this evaluation. Assessment of Quality of Life in Clinical Trials: Methods and Practice explores the current state of the art and illustrates the benefits and potential of health related quality of life assessment in clinical trials. It covers a wide range of analytical issues, emphasizing new and innovative approaches that are of practical and clinical importance. The book will have widespread appeal to clinical trialists and researchers from a wide range of specialties.

The 464 page book is available for \$75, plus shipping & handling, from Oxford University Press (www.oup.com). To receive a 20% discount as a member of ISOQOL, visit the Members Only section of the web site, then click on Member Publications.

ISOQOL SURVEY OF MEMBERS' VIEWS OF MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Elaine McColl, MSc
Newcastle upon Tyne, UK

Interim report to ISOQOL Board: October 2004

In August 2004, the membership committee, with the approval of the ISOQOL Board, initiated a web-based survey of members' views of membership benefits. A total of 236 web-based questionnaires were completed (41 % of the 578 initially sent).

The first section of the questionnaire addressed awareness and importance of current benefits. The findings showed that there was low awareness of some benefits – in particular, that retired members can benefit from reduced membership fees, and that there is on-line access via the ISOQOL web-site to the Oral History Quality of Life Project – suggesting that we could do more to promote some of what we offer! Most members, however, were aware of the newsletter, SIG-related activities, reduced registration fees for the annual scientific meetings, and reduced subscription rates for *Quality of Life Research* (perhaps because these items are highlighted on the membership renewal form). Focusing on the percentage perceiving a benefit to be Very Important, the highest percentage endorsement was observed in respect of on-line access to Quality of Life Assessment Guidelines (despite a relatively low level of current awareness). The next most popular benefit was the reduced registration fee for the annual scientific meeting. When respondents were asked to indicate which three of the 14 listed benefits were 'most important' to them, reduced registration fees for annual scientific meetings, reduced subscription rate for the journal *Quality of Life Research* and on-line access to Quality of Life Assessment Guidelines (in that order) emerged as the most important. In response to an open question at the end of this section, a common theme was the opportunity presented by ISOQOL to connect and network with others working in the field.

In the second section of the questionnaire, potential future benefits were listed and respondents were asked to indicate their level of support for each benefit. For most of the potential benefits, in excess of 50% of respondents indicate that they 'Might Want' or 'Definitely Want' it; only for electronic access to teaching and learning resources relevant to QoL research in languages other than English did the percentage endorsing 'Do Not Want' exceed 50% (this probably reflects the geographic base of the respondents). Looking only at those endorsing 'Definitely Want', there was greater variability of views. The most desired benefit, by this criterion, was web-site access to an electronic database of QoL articles; electronic access to English-language teaching and learning resources relevant to QoL research, web-site links to QoL grant information, and web-site access to electronic database of QoL data are also popular. Only about 20% of respondents 'Definitely Want' inclusion of subscription to *Quality of Life Research* as a universal benefit, and electronic access to teaching and learning resources relevant to QoL research in languages other than English, web-chats with established scholars / experts in the field of QoL, web-chats with other ISOQOL members (e.g. for SIGs), discounts on subscriptions to journals other than *Quality of Life Research* and discount for joint membership with other societies were not in great demand either.

The final section of the questionnaire asked for demographic data. Of those respondents who answered the question on gender, 55% are female, 45% male. The majority of respondents were in the 36-55 year old age groups. 72 countries across all five continents were represented amongst the respondents, though most came from the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, Sweden or the Netherlands. The vast majority of respondents were regular (full) members; 12% were students and 6% from non-industrialised nations (the

latter two categories benefiting from reduced membership fees). Over 60% of respondents reported paying their own membership fees, but the pattern was reversed with regards to payment of registration fees for the annual scientific meeting, when two-thirds of fees are paid by employers. The majority (65%) of respondents indicated that their primary work area is academia, with 14% coming from clinical settings and 11% from industry. Similarly, the majority (81%) of respondents self-categorised their QoL activity/role as 'researcher', with almost all the rest (12%) describing themselves as 'clinicians'. A wide range of educational / training backgrounds were observed, though 'medicine', 'psychology' and 'epidemiology' dominated.

The findings from this survey have been considered by the ISOQOL Board and the chairs of the standing committees, and are now being used to inform and prioritize activities and initiatives of the Society. In this way, we aim to make the Society responsive to the needs and demands of you, the membership. Thank you for sharing your views with us!

*Watch for your
2005 ISOQOL
Ballot in the mail
soon. Make your
vote count!*

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

Western University of Health Sciences College of Pharmacy, Pomona, CA, is seeking qualified candidates for its 2005-2006 OUTCOMES RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP. The goal of the program is to provide comprehensive post-graduate training in conducting independent evaluative outcomes research for application in various settings. PharmD or MS/PhD with pharmacy training required. If interested, please email Anandi V. Law (alaw@westernu.edu) before June 15, 2005.

ADVERTISING RATES

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CALENDAR

October 19-22, 2005

12th Annual Scientific Meeting of the International Society for Quality of Life Research (ISOQOL), to be held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in San Francisco, CA, USA.

October 21-24, 2005

27th Annual Meeting of the Society for Medical Decision Making (SMDM), to be held at the Hyatt Embarcadero in San Francisco, CA, USA.

July 17-20, 2006

Seventh International Society of Quality of Life Studies (ISQOLS) Conference, to be held at Rhodes University, Grahamstown, South Africa. For details when available, please visit <http://market1.cob.vt.edu/isqols> or contact conference@ehps2005.com.

August 31 - September 3, 2005

The 19th Annual Conference of the European Health Psychology Society will be held at the National University of Ireland, Galway. Further details of the conference can be obtained from www.ehps2005.com or you can contact us at conference@ehps2005.com.

Share your Special Interest with Colleagues!

ISOQOL members have the opportunity to participate in the following Special Interest Groups (SIGs). Contact the Executive Office to learn more about membership and how to join one or more of these SIGs:

- ~ Clinical Significance/ Interpretation
- ~ Cross Cultural Research/ Translation Methods
- ~ HIV/AIDS ~ IRT ~ Oncology
- ~ Psychometric Methods
- ~ Qualitative Methods
- ~ Response Shift
- ~ New Investigators
- ~ Statistical Methods
- ~ Utility Measures
- ~ SEIQoL (Schedule for the Evaluation of Individual Quality of Life)
- ~ QOL in Clinical Practice
- ~ Translation and Cultural Adaptation

ISOQOL MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR 2005

The membership dues for ISOQOL have been fixed for at least 7 years. However, the costs of running the society have increased with inflation. During the October meeting, the ISOQOL board voted to increase the annual dues, with a modest increase for Regular, Student and Retired members. Reflecting the educational goals of the society, the dues for Students remain significantly lower than the dues for Regular members. The Board also voted to change the category of "Members from

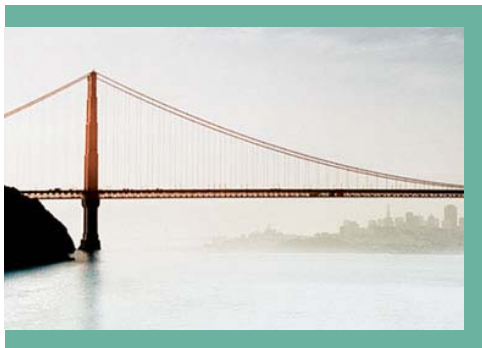
Developing Countries" to "Special" and tie eligibility for this category to income, rather than residence. The reduced fee for this category will hopefully encourage more members from less developed countries to join, while recognizing that there are many potential members residing in countries that do not qualify as developing countries under the criteria used previously. Finally, the Board voted to allow a 3% increase across all dues in future years to match inflation.

2005 Dues Structure:

- Regular (professionals in the field) \$ 90.00 US
- Contributing (suppliers/supporters) \$ 200.00 US
- Student: pre-doc, post-doc, resident, fellow \$ 36.00 US
- Retired \$ 36.00 US
- Special (income of \$15,000 US or less annually) \$ 25.00 US

ISOQOL 12th Annual Conference San Francisco, CA, USA October 19 - 22, 2005

ISOQOL invites you to San Francisco, the city
that is home to a little bit of everything!



DATES TO REMEMBER...

Abstract Notification - July 2005

Early Bird Registration - August 19, 2005

Workshops - October 19, 2005

Conference - October 20-22, 2005

For more information visit us at www.isoqol.org

ISOQOL MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Know someone who might benefit from ISOQOL membership? Share these benefits with them and encourage them to join today!

- * Online Membership Directory
- * Participation in a variety of Special Interest Groups
- * Reduced subscription rate for the *Quality of Life Research Journal*
- * Reduced conference registration rates
- * Annual meetings of the International Society for Quality of Life
- * Opportunity to present and hear cutting edge research presentations and posters
- * Opportunity to have special interest group meetings at the annual meeting
- * Access to the "Members Only" section of the ISOQOL website – an invaluable resource tool!
- * Participation in a variety of committees
- * Participation in the ISOQOL listserv - email communication with other QOL experts
- * Exposure to and participation with other professionals involved in quality of life research activities
- * Discount on annual subscriptions to the Quality of Life Instruments Database, offered by MAPI Research Institute
- * Complimentary receipt of newsletters published 3-times/year
- * Complimentary copies of QualityMetric's CD series "Understanding Health Outcomes: An Accredited Educational Series on CD-ROM." Includes "Health Status: Concepts, Measures, and Applications" and "Measuring Specific Conditions Monitoring Outcomes" (*while supplies last*)
- * 20% discount on the purchase of *Assessing Quality of Life in Clinical Trials: Methods and Practice, Second Edition* edited by Peter Fayers, PhD and Ron Hays, PhD

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