

Online Appendix 3: Measurement Terms Used in the CPG

Measurement Terms Used in the CPG	
Reliability	
Inter-rater	The degree to which two or more raters can obtain the same ratings for a given variable
Intra-rater	The degree to which one rater can obtain the same rating on multiple occasions of measuring the same variable
Test-retest	The degree to which an instrument is stable, based on repeated administrations of the test to the same individuals over a specified time interval
Internal Consistency	A form of reliability, assessing the degree to which a set of items in an instrument all measure the same trait. Typically measured using Cronbach's alpha.
Intra-class Correlation Coefficient (ICC)	A reliability coefficient based on an analysis of variance; a generalizability coefficient
Cronbach's Alpha	Reliability index of internal consistency, on a scale of 0.00 to 1.00
Kappa Statistic	A correction factor for percent agreement measures of reliability, accounting for the potential effect of chance agreements
Standard Error/Responsiveness	
Standard error of measurement (SEM)	A reliability measure of response stability, estimating the standard error in a set of repeated scores
Minimal detectable change (MDC)	See MDD
Smallest detectable change (SDC)	See MDD
Minimal clinically important difference (MCID)	The smallest difference in a measured variable that signifies an important rather than trivial different in the patient's condition. The smallest difference a patient or clinician would perceive as beneficial, and that would result in a change in the management of the patient. Also called minimal clinically important change (MCIC) or minimally important change (MIC).
Minimal importance difference (MID)	See MCID
Minimal important change (MIC)	See MCID
Minimal detectable difference (MDD)	That amount of change in a variable that must be achieved to reflect a true difference; the smallest amount of change that passes the threshold of error. Also called minimal detectable change (MDC) and smallest detectable change (SDC).
Interpretability	
Ceiling effect	A measurement limitation of an instrument whereby the scale cannot determine increased performance beyond a certain level
Floor effect	A measurement limitation of an instrument whereby the scale cannot determine decreased performance beyond a certain level

Definitions from:

1. Portney LG, Watkins MP. Foundations of Clinical Research: Applications to Practice. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson/Prentice Hall; 2009.