

Guidelines for translating POEM into other languages

We ask that you follow these guidelines when translating the content of POEM into another language.

1. The text should be translated by 2 or more people who are:

- ☐ Fluent in the language POEM is being translated into and English
- ☐ Familiar with the locality where the outcome measure will be used

2. Some terms may be difficult to translate (e.g. 'oozing clear fluid' and 'flaking off'), so we advise you to ask:

- ☐ Local doctors about the words used to describe these terms
- ☐ People with eczema (or their parents) about the words they use to describe these terms

3. The questionnaires should be translated back into English by an independent translator. The back translated version should be approved as being appropriate by a native English speaker with dermatology experience.

Comment

The translation of questionnaires is a key issue for the validity of comparisons involving non-English speaking countries. The translated version of POEM must have the same structure and logic as the original. The translation must be understood by the people who will use POEM, who may use terms which are different to those used by medical professionals. There is no need to translate the scoring page, but if you wish to do so for your own use that is fine - no back translation is required.