

NIHR Greater Manchester PSTRC

## Plain English Publication Summary

Publication: [Validation of the Primary Care Patient Measure of Safety \(PC PMOS\) questionnaire](#)

### Publication details (Vancouver format)

Giles SJ, Parveen S, Hernan AL. Validation of the Primary Care Patient Measure of Safety (PC PMOS) questionnaire. BMJ Qual Saf Published Online First: 18 October 2018. doi: 10.1136/bmjqs-2018-007988

### What was known before your paper was published?

The primary care patient measure of safety (PC PMOS) questionnaire contains 50 questions that cover 15 areas of safety. Some of these areas of safety include communication, access to care, information flow, organisation and care planning, equipment and environment, and staff training and education. The PC PMOS is a quick and efficient way to get patients' views on factors that contribute to patient safety in primary care. It helps to involve patients in improving safety and provides primary care organisations with practical information that can be used to prevent harm. The PC PMOS will be able to be used potentially as part of a thorough approach to safety management in primary care.

### What did you do?

We asked 490 adult patients in nine primary care practices in Greater Manchester to complete the PC PMOS questionnaire and 81 practice staff to complete a patient safety culture questionnaire to find out if the PC PMOS was a valid and reliable tool. Validity seeks to understand if the questionnaire measures what it is intended to. Reliability seeks to understand if the questionnaire produces stable and consistent results.

We assessed the validity and reliability of the PC PMOS by undertaking various statistical modelling techniques on the data collected from primary care patients and staff. The statistical techniques aim to shrink the data into smaller data so that is more manageable and more understandable. In this way, 50 questions covering 15 domains of safety were reduced to the most important or essential questions and domains of safety.

**What did you find?**

After the statistical modelling was completed it was found that there were 28 questions deemed to be the most important or essential that relate to patient safety. This final model showed no associations between the 9 primary care practices, which means the PC PMOS can distinguish between different practice and patient groups. The final model also showed some associations between the PC PMOS and the results from the staff safety culture survey. This means that the PC PMOS questionnaire compares well to an established measure of patient safety. These findings suggests the PC PMOS is valid and reliable tool.

**What insights/knowledge did you add?**

This study led to the production of a reliable and valid PC PMOS questionnaire with 28 questions. It could enhance or complement current data collection methods used in primary care to identify and prevent error.