Rasch analysis of the 23-item version of the Roland Morris Disability Questionnaire

**Background:**
The measurement of activity limitation has become increasingly central in the clinical assessment of people with back pain. The Roland Morris Disability Questionnaire is the most commonly used questionnaire for measuring activity limitation in people with low back pain. Measurement science is progressing and the performance criteria expected of questionnaires are becoming more demanding. Rasch analysis is an example of a new method of questionnaire development that is based on Item-Response Theory. The 23-item version of the Roland Morris Disability Questionnaire is the only version translated into Danish but it has not yet been analysed using Rasch Analysis.

**Purpose:**
This study aimed to determine the measurement properties of the 23-item version of the Roland Morris Disability Questionnaire using Rasch analysis and quantify the stability of those findings across two cultures, two languages and two types of care-settings.

**Method:**
Rasch analysis of the 23-item version of the Roland Morris Disability Questionnaire using the responses of 2,159 patients with low back pain: 935 people from primary care in the United Kingdom, plus 289 people from Danish primary care and 935 people from the secondary care SpineData database in Denmark.

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