VALUING EQ-5D-5L HEALTH STATES USING A COMPOSITIONAL APPROACH: A NEW TOOL FOR ELICITING PERSONAL UTILITY FUNCTIONS ONLINE (OPUF)

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THE PROBLEM
- Standard preference elicitation techniques (time trade-off, standard gamble, discrete choice experiments, etc) are inefficient.
- They require hundreds if not thousands of participants to estimate a social value set for the EQ-5D-5L (≡ QALY-weights)

THE ‘OPUF’ SOLUTION
- We developed a new type of online survey, the OPUF Tool, for valuing EQ-5D-5L health states.
- The tool is based on a study by Devlin et al. (2018), which pioneered the 'PUF' method in face-to-face interviews.
- We used an iterative design approach to refine the PUF method and adapt it for online use.
- The OPUF tool allows us to construct EQ-5D-5L value sets for small groups and on the individual personal level.

PILOT STUDY
- We recruited 50 participants from the UK through prolific.co to pilot the OPUF Tool.
- It took participants about 6 minutes, on average, to complete all exercises.
- We were able to construct personal utility functions for the for all 50 participants.
- Participants’ utility function were consistent with the choices they made in a DCE validation task (consistency: 78%).
- We also aggregated preferences across participants to derive a group-level EQ-5D-5L value set.
- The figure on the right illustrates the group (thick line) and all 50 personal utility functions (thin lines).

FUTURE APPLICATIONS
In the future, the OPUF Tool could be used:
1. to elicit preferences from small groups (e.g. patients, carers, etc.)
2. to derive value sets on a small budget
3. as a patient decision aid in clinical practice

Try the OPUF Tool yourself: https://eq5d5l.me