

Course report

The Title of the PhD Course was **“Questionnaires in clinical and public health research: development, validation and evaluation”** The course was held at the University of Copenhagen, Denmark between the dates 30thJan, 2020 to 4th Feb.

The topics of the course in each day was divided into: Day 1: Conceptualization and content validity, Day 2: Developing questionnaires, Day 3 Cognitive interviewing, doing studies and validation, Day 4: Multi-item scales, classical and modern psychometrics, Day 5: Choosing and using questionnaires and constructing scales. The learning methods were basically power point presentation by the lecturers/professors and group exercises and discussions in each topic using the students project examples.

In this course, I gained good knowledge in basic concepts such as problem formulation, conceptualization and developing a variable list for questionnaire development in a research project. Further, I gained a great insight on developing a questionnaire, adapting questionnaires, combing standardized questionnaires, validating the questionnaires and when and how to use cognitive interviews. I will use the knowledge gained in this course to develop and adapt the questionnaires and more importantly validating the questionnaires. I now have the required skills to use cognitive interview and questionnaire validating skills which I realized has a great importance in the study. I am sure I will use the knowledge and skills of this course in the future projects too.

I am very satisfied with the course. The good points are that the course was short and only the important areas of the questionnaire’s development has been covered. However, negative point is also the same. It was quite short with short time period for the exercises. It would have been great to use some more example questionnaires as exercises. The suggested reading list is also very useful but was send out quite late due to which book could not be loaned and instead I had to buy it. I am sure it is a good investment to a buy a book too. But the it happened in short notice.

I would definitely recommend the course to other PhD students who will be using multiple standardized questionnaires and are planning to adapt a standardized questionnaire, developing and validating questionnaires as one of the methods of the research. It is beneficial to attend the course during the initial phases of the research project.

