Appendix 1 - Health-related quality of life (HRQOL) measures

HRQOL measure	Survey Question (s)	What it Captures	
Measures of physical functioning			
Vision	Are you usually able to see well enough to read newsprint without or with glasses or contact lenses?	Vision problems that cannot be corrected by lenses.	
Mobility	Are you usually able to walk around the neighbourhood without difficulty and without mechanical support such as braces, a cane or crutches?	Any problem with mobility	
Dexterity	Are you usually able to grasp and handle small objects such as a pencil or scissors?	Any problem with dexterity	
Pain	Are you usually free of pain or discomfort?	Living with any level of pain	
Mea	asures of mental or psychological function	oning	
Emotion	Emotional state described as "Happy and interested in life	Living with less than perfect emotional state	
Cognition	Able to think clearly and solve problems	Less than perfect cognition	
Distress Level	Six questions comprising a subset of the Composite International Diagnostic Interview (CIDI) are combined to yield a distress score on a scale of 0-24. These are then grouped into 4 categories (none (0); low (1-2); medium (3-5) and high (6-24) after Rhodes et al. 30	Level of emotional distress from none to high	
	Measures of disability		
Long-term Disability	Do you have any long-term disabilities or handicaps?	Long-term disability and handicap lasting more than six months or more, as defined by the respondent	
Needs assistance with Basic Activities of Daily Living (ADL)	Need for assistance with daily living including eating, bathing dressing, or moving about a residence.	Indicates a more severe level of disability.	
Needs assistance with Instrumental Activities of Daily Living (IADL)	Need for assistance with daily living including shopping for groceries, meal preparation, light or heavy work	A more mild or moderate level of disability compared with those needing assistance with basic activities of daily living.	
Disability	Combines the results of the activity restriction question (see below) and the activities of daily living (ADL) questions into a single measure.	Four levels of disability from none (no restriction of activity and no need for assistance with ADL) to severe.	
	Measures of social participation		
Restriction of Normal Activities	Because of a long term physical or mental condition or a health problem, are you limited in the kind or amount of activity you can do at home, school, work or during leisure time?	Measures the impact of a health condition or long-term disability on social participation	
Current Working Status	Based on a series of questions about employment in the 12 months prior to the survey. Those not currently working were asked to give reasons why they weren't working.	Measures the impact of illness or disability on employment.	

Global measures of health status			
Self-Rated Health of "Good" or better	How would you rate your health?	Respondent's own evaluation of his or her health	
Health Utilities Index Score (mean)	A two-part method estimating a utility value for each respondent. First, 30 questions ascertain the level of impairment for 8 attributes. Second, attribute impairments are combined to estimate a utility score between 0 and 1.	A summary measure of physical functioning	