OBJECTIVES: 1) To assess if a translatable assessment (TA) conducted prior to a psychometric assessment in PRO instrument development could predict items subsequently eliminated, and 2) to provide evidence to the extent to which a TA adds value to the translation and cultural adaptation of PRO instruments. The Youth Quality of Life Instrument–Weight module (YQOL-W) was chosen as a candidate questionnaire for this exercise.

RESULTS: A team of two linguists, blinded to the results of psychometric analyses and decisions on item reduction, conducted a TA on the 32-item pre-final version of the YQOL-W. Results were categorized into several types of issues. Items for possible deletion were identified and compared to the results of the item-reduction phase, using both qualitative and psychometric methods performed by the developer.

CONCLUSIONS: A TA adds value to the translation and cultural adaptation of PRO instruments.