

**DEVELOPMENT OF STANDARDIZED OUTCOME MEASURES REPORTING OF
DISTAL RADIUS FRACTURES FOR CLINICAL PRACTICE IN U.A.E.: A
PRELIMINARY STUDY**

**Abigail Nicole K. Bulusan,
OTRP, CHT**
University of Perpetual Help
System Laguna
PHILIPPINES
c21-1234-236@uphsl.edu.ph

**Noel R. San Antonio, DPT,
MSCPD, PTRP**
University of Perpetual Help
System Laguna
PHILIPPINES
noel.sanantonio@uphsl.edu.ph

Susana C. Bautista, EdD
University of Perpetual Help
System Laguna
PHILIPPINES
bautista.susana@uphsl.edu.ph

ABSTRACT

Rehabilitation plays a critical role in preventing complications associated with distal radius fractures (DRF) and in optimizing functional recovery. Accurate diagnosis, treatment planning, and follow-up care are essential in enhancing patient outcomes. This study sought to examine the perspectives of hand therapy experts in the UAE regarding the development of standardized outcome measures for the management of Distal Radius Fractures (DRFs). The primary aim was to establish a set of clinical outcome measures for DRFs. The study commenced with a comprehensive review of the relevant literature and focus group discussion. The findings of which informed the development of an outcome measurement tool to be validated by hand therapists. This tool was subsequently distributed to members of the UAE Hand Therapist Specialized Group for feedback. The results revealed unanimous recommendations (100%) for the inclusion of the Visual Analog Scale, goniometer, composite measure, thumb opposition test, edema measurement, and radiographic imaging. These findings align with those from previous studies, such as Hall et al. (2020). Additionally, a majority (75%) endorsed the use of the dynamometer, QuickDASH, and return-to-work assessments. The least recommended tools (25%) were the Numeric Rating Scale (NRS), Digital Hand Dynamometer, and scar assessment. While experts acknowledged the advantages of standardizing outcome measures for DRFs, they also highlighted challenges, including the country's diverse population, cultural factors, variations in clinical practices, and disparities in resources. Despite these challenges, hand therapists' feedback confirmed that the proposed set of outcome measures was deemed suitable, feasible, relevant, and comprehensive in UAE's clinical practice.

Keywords: Distal Radius Fractures, Outcome Measures, Suitability, Clinical Practice.