Web-based European Food Propensity Questionnaire

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Background (1)

- estimated average usage of internet in Europe: 25.1%
  - Internet use differ in different part of Europe (Germany, France, Norway ~65% vs. Greece, Spain ~ 20-30%)
  - health-related Internet use is increasing in Europe and worldwide

- Potential for prevention and research
  - e.g. dissemination of nutritional knowlegde
  - e.g. data assessment in large-scale population-based studies

- application of webbased dietary assessment instruments in nutritional epidemiology is currently limited

Brug et al. (2005), Internet & nutrition: challenges and opportunities, EJCN Vol. 59 (130-37)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Possible strengths</th>
<th>possible weaknesses</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• higher quality of data</td>
<td>• finite food list with often closed ended response categories</td>
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<tr>
<td>- immediate and automatic control for</td>
<td>- No assessment of atypical consumed foods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>missing and implausible data</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• direct data transfer to study centre</td>
<td>• measurement error</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- less costs (no costs for printing- &amp;</td>
<td>- often no quantification or imprecise estimation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>postage)</td>
<td>of portion sizes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- less organisational constraints (no</td>
<td>- retrospective: good rely on memory is required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>manual checks for incomplete and implausible answers &amp; no transfer of data to an electronic format, easily adaptable)</td>
<td>- possible bias due to direct previous food intake</td>
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<tr>
<td>• higher compliance</td>
<td>• selection bias</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- completion any time &amp; location, reminder messages, personalized feed-back, interactive help features</td>
<td>- limited access to internet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Internet- &amp; Computer skills are required</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Objective

- development of a multi-languages web-based European Food Propensity Questionnaire (EFPQ), suitable to assess dietary intake in different European countries

- investigation of its feasibility and acceptance as epidemiological study instrument within a multi-centric pilotstudy
  - objective criteria: participation rates, reasons for non-participation, data provided by web analysis
  - subjective criteria: webbased evaluation questionnaire

reference: https://nugo.dife.de/efbo/portal/en
EFFQ:

- developed on the basis of the German-specific 102-item FFQ applied in the EPIC-Potsdam cohort for the second dietary assessment using a web-based working procedure

- European experts reviewed and modified an English version of the initial FFQ appropriately to the dietary habits in their countries, the common European version then was translated

- queries about the frequency of consumption of 116 foods during the preceding year, demonstrated with graphically displayed portion sizes

- main purpose: to reflect the ranking of the participants

reference: https://nugo.dife.de/efbo/portal/en


common 6-languages Food Propensity Questionnaire: English, Italian, Norwegian, Spanish, Basque, Estonian, German

EFPQ: https://nugo.dife.de/efbo/portal/en
For study participants

Dear participant, thank you for your contribution to the research on diet and health. Please login with the user name and password you have received from the study office, using the form below. You will be connected to the right questionnaire. There you will receive further information about filling the online forms and whom to ask in case you need assistance.

Login for the questionnaire

User ID: 45C7 8015 -
Password: 
Login

For Scientists
View the Questionnaires and Web-Forms available on this Portal

For Managers and Administrators
Access to the management tools for authorized users

Version 1.0, last modified on 13 Feb 2009
developed by the Department of Epidemiology
of the German Institute of Human Nutrition Potsdam-Rentzünde (DIfE) © 2008-2009
Photographs by amnulabo

source: https://nugo.dife.de/elbo/portal/en
European Food Propensity Questionnaire (EFPQ)

**Sweets**

Cookies, biscuits (3 pieces)
- never
- once a month or less frequent
- 2-3 times a month
- 1-2 times a week
- 3-4 times a week
- 5 times a week or more frequent

Chocolate and chocolate candy (50g)
- Never
- once a month or less frequent
- 2-3 times a month
- 1-2 times a week
- 3-4 times a week
- 5-6 times a week
- 1 time a day or more frequent

Sweets and candy (1 handful)
- Never
- once a month or less frequent
- 2-3 times a month
- 1-2 times a week
- 3-4 times a week
- 5-6 times a week
- 1 time a day or more frequent

[Back] [Continue]
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European Food Propensity Questionnaire (EFPQ)

Please evaluate the questionnaire on a scale from 1 (brilliant) to 6 (abysmal) in the following categories:

- Clarity of the questions
  - 1
  - 2
  - 3
  - 4
  - 5
  - 6

- Clarity of the explanations
  - 1
  - 2
  - 3
  - 4
  - 5
  - 6

- Visual elements (Colors, font and font size, pictures, placing of the elements)
  - 1
  - 2
  - 3
  - 4
  - 5
  - 6

- User friendliness (Clarity, navigation, logical structure)
  - 1
  - 2
  - 3
  - 4
  - 5
  - 6

- Difficulties with estimating the usual intake of individual foods or a food group during the last 12 months
  - No, everything could be estimated without problems
  - Yes, I had difficulties with the following items:

- Expenditure of time for the completion of the questionnaire
  - less than 20 minutes
  - between 20 and 40 minutes
Recruitment from local cohorts

study population (n = 80), DIfE, UCAM-CLGR, CSPO, BIOEF, UITo, EGPF

1 x European Food Propensity Questionnaire\(^1\)
- conducted by:
  - self-administered, either in paper or web-based format or telephone-assisted
- quality control system
- approx. 30-60 min

3 x non consecutive 24 HDRs\(^2\)
- conducted by:
  - computer-assisted interview, by telephone\(^1\)
- quality control system
- well-trained interviewers required
- approx. 30-45 min

Local data documentation

Data hub (DIfE)

Statistical procedure of modelling combined dietary data and analysis of feasibility

Report on feasibility of selected instruments and methodology across European study populations

Concept:
- combination of dietary assessment instruments
- subjects can choose between paper or web-based EFPQ

\(^1\) EFPQ
\(^2\) local versions of EPIC soft
## Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IDAMES-study-centre</th>
<th>Participation rates % [n]</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Web-EFPQ</td>
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<tr>
<td>Florenz (I)</td>
<td>49.0 [24]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potsdam (D)</td>
<td>33.9 [19]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Sebastian (E)</td>
<td>22.6 [14]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tartu (EE)</td>
<td>92.9 [65]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tromsoe (NOR)</td>
<td>70.0 [21]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* EFPQ: European Food Propensity Questionnaire

Data refer to the response sheet. Not all questionnaires are currently completed.
The EFPQ seems to be a feasible and suitable dietary assessment instrument in multi-centric cohort studies.

Further development is needed to refine its methodology for an enlarged application in other countries.

The use of a combination of dietary assessment instruments, including internet technologies is methodologically a promising approach for future dietary assessment.

Source: https://nugo.dife.de/efbo/portal/en
Thank you very much for your attention

All IDAMES-partners:

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Heather Ward
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Pilar Amiano
Nadia Slimani

(http://www.idames.eu)