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Submitted: 15 Jun 2020 Accepted: 29 Oct 2020 Online: 29 Dec 2020

The Development and Validation of Job Satisfaction Questionnaire for Health Workforce

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To cite this article: Ahmad NFD, Ren Jye AK, Zulkifli Z, Bujang MA. The development and validation of job satisfaction questionnaire for health workforce. *Malays J Med Sci.* 2020;**27(6)**:128–143. https://doi.org/10.21315/mjms2020.27.6.12

To link to this article: https://doi.org/10.21315/mjms2020.27.6.12

Abstract

Background: This study aims to develop and validate a job satisfaction questionnaire (JS-Q) for health workforce who are employed by a healthcare institution.

Methods: The study consists of six phases which begins with eliciting a conceptual understanding of the subject matter which is then followed by questions development, designing the overall structure and format of the questionnaire, assessing both its content validity and face validity, conducting a pilot study and finally a field test. A sample of study respondents who were permanent hospital staff above 18 years of age had been recruited from three government hospitals in Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia.

Results: The finalised JS-Q consists of a total of 34 questions that were based on 8 domains. For all these 8 domains, the minimum loading of each item on the factors was calculated to be at least 0.500, its coefficient of Cronbach's alpha was calculated to be at least 0.750 and its corrected item-total correlation was calculated to be at least 0.500. The goodness of fit of the model was determined to be satisfactory with a value of Chi-square/df < 3.0, and a value of root mean square error approximation (RMSEA) < 0.8 and finally with both Tucker Lewis index (TLI) and comparative fit index (CFI) > 0.9.

Conclusion: This newly developed and validated questionnaire (JS-Q) is found to be a valid and reliable study instrument for assessing job satisfaction among health workforce.

Keywords: health workforce, job satisfaction, questionnaire development, reliability, validity

Introduction

The healthcare industry increasingly requires a skilled workforce due to rapid advancements in medical technology, in concert with an ever-increasing expectation of patients towards more sophisticated methods for the optimal delivery of patient care. Job satisfaction among healthcare employees is essential for attracting and retaining top performers within the healthcare industry, by improving staff morale within the organisation. This is because job dissatisfaction can be a major cause of absenteeism and turnover among healthcare employees, which can adversely affect employees' organisational commitment and the quality of healthcare services rendered (1-2).

Job dissatisfaction can be a major cause for concern within a knowledge-based sector such as the healthcare industry. In fact, such a heavy emphasis being placed on job satisfaction for the



employees from the knowledge-based sectors (for example, the healthcare industry) shows that it is as important in these sectors as in the other business sectors. This is particularly true for the professional and service-based organisations such as hospitals, where the provision of longterm specialist training for medical professionals and retaining these highly skilled healthcare staff are deemed highly important (1).

This study aims to develop a new job satisfaction questionnaire (JS-Q) for health workforce. Although many existing varieties of JS-Q are already widely available in the literature, our intention for this study is to develop this questionnaire and to tailor its psychometric properties to be feasible for assessing job satisfaction among the entire local healthcare workers, in order to provide a mechanism for the continuous assessment and monitoring of their job satisfaction, especially within the local healthcare setting.

Job satisfaction serves an important function by enhancing the level of employee's motivation and productivity (2-3). It is also an important measure which enables the top management and policymakers to constantly monitor the level of job achievement, so that they can seek various means to upgrade their job management and job enhancement. Without proper monitoring of job satisfaction, it is possible for employee behaviour to have a negative impact on their working environment and subsequently their productivity (4). Although the term 'job satisfaction questionnaire' is usually regarded as a common study instrument, it is however still necessary to revisit the specific domains and items for the measurement of job satisfaction, considering a myriad of challenges that are currently faced by these employees in their working environment nowadays, especially in the healthcare sector.

Hence, this newly developed questionnaire will prove very useful for providing continuous feedback to the top management as well as healthcare policymakers of the medical institutions on the level of job satisfaction reported by the health workforce from time to time. Such a feedback provided by the existing health workforce will immediately alert them about any adverse working conditions that present as factors which result in job dissatisfaction among these employees. This will hopefully prompt the authorities to identify the root cause of job dissatisfaction, in order to take all the necessary steps to address it by increasing **Original Article** | Job satisfaction questionnaire

their job satisfaction as well as making sure they are being heard with regard to their employment needs.

Methods

Population and Sample

In this study, the study population refers to all the healthcare employees who are currently working in Sarawak, Malaysia. A sample of study respondents was recruited from three government hospitals in Kuching, Sarawak which include Sarawak General Hospital, Bau Hospital and Lundu Hospital. All these study respondents recruited for this study were permanent hospital staff of above 18 years of age.

Data Collection

The study respondents were recruited by using the snowball sampling technique, which involved the use of their email addresses. The researchers sent an email to each study participant which provided a link to the google form of the JS-Q for him/her to fill in.

Process of Questionnaire Development

The whole process of developing this questionnaire has been summarised in Figure 1. It involved a total of six phases starting from an initial exploration of the subject matter which encompassed the overall conceptualisation of the underpinning theory of job satisfaction. This was also an observational study that utilised both a qualitative approach (i.e. to study the background subject matter, to develop the specific items of the questionnaire, to determine both the structure and format of questionnaire and finally to assess its content & face validity) and a quantitative approach (i.e. to conduct a pilot study and a field test) to develop the scale for the measurement of job satisfaction.

This research adopted the conventional framework for the development of measurement scales in which all the authors begin by taking the first step to conduct an extensive literature review of job satisfaction to enhance their understanding of the subject matter by exploration before developing the conceptual framework for this JS-Q, as shown in Figure 2 (1–9). Upon identification of a list of core components of the concept of 'job satisfaction', the authors then proceeded to develop the items of this JS-Q which were

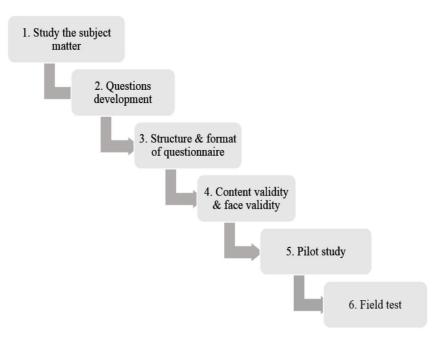
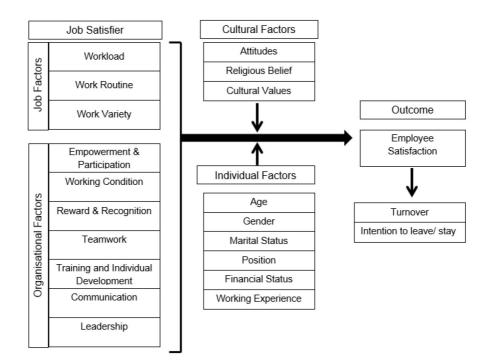
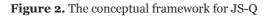


Figure 1. The recommended process for questionnaire development





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further categorised in 7 different domains. Hence, the first draft of the questionnaire was initially prepared, which included a total of 43 items within 7 domains namely i) 'Empowerment and participation' with 6 questions; ii) 'Working condition' with 8 questions; iii) 'Reward and recognition' with 6 questions; iv) 'Teamwork' with 5 questions; v) 'Training and Development' with 5 questions; vi) 'Communication' with 7 questions and vii) 'Leadership' with 6 questions.

Its content validity was assessed by three subject matter experts (SMEs) and this panel of SMEs included a high-ranking medical officer, an administrative officer providing diplomatic services who was holding a Master's degree in human resource and a research consultant holding an MBA qualification. The final draft of the questionnaire was then pre-tested among 10 healthcare workers to determine its face validity. Its face validity was found to be satisfactory with only a few minor modifications necessary. Next, a total of 30 healthcare workers were then recruited for conducting a pilot test of this JS-Q, from which the reliability of this JS-Q was assessed to be satisfactory, as measured by its high value of internal consistency (Cronbach alpha > 0.800).

Finally, this questionnaire was fieldtested within 1 month's time from April 2019 until May 2019, before they were used in the main study. This field-testing of JS-Q involved conducting a cross-sectional survey among a group of study respondents who were permanent healthcare workers recruited from three hospitals in Kuching, Sarawak. In this survey, each study respondent was required to fill in a self-administered questionnaire that consists of questions on each individual's sociodemographic profile and his/her job satisfaction level.

Statistical Analysis

The ultimate aim of this study was to develop a new questionnaire that can accurately assess job satisfaction. Descriptive statistics were initially used to describe the socio-demographic profiles of all the study respondents. Exploratory factor analysis (EFA) and confirmatory factor analysis (CFA) were then conducted to determine the construct validity which then led to the selection of the best construct in this JS-Q for assessing the job satisfaction level. In order to verify the construct validity (which comprises both discriminant and convergent validity), the EFA was conducted by utilizing principle component analysis (PCA) with the varimax rotation method, which had applied an Eigenvalue of > 1 for this purpose. During this process, it is necessary to delete any items with either a cross loading of more than 0.40 or a loading of less than 0.40.

After using EFA to identify the factor structure present in a set of variables, the model fit was then assessed by using CFA where indicators such as Tucker Lewis Index (TLI ≥ 0.90), Comparative Fit Index (CFI \geq 0.90), root mean square error approximation (RMSEA ≤ 0.08) and Akaike information criterion (AIC) were estimated (10–11). Deletion of items in the questionnaire was performed in a consecutive manner, and an item would be deleted if its content validity was too low and/or there were some abnormally large values associated with their error covariances from among the various items. This process of using CFA to test a hypothesised factor structure or model by assessing its goodness of fit to the data would continue until a satisfactory model fit has been achieved.

Sample Size Planning

The determination of minimum required sample size was based on a rule-of-thumb for EFA since EFA has been applied to test the validity of the JS-Q. Initially, it was estimated that 40 items had been developed for the JS-Q. This means that based on the rule of thumb of using 5:1 ratio for sample size determination, the minimum sample size of $40 \times 5 = 200$ study participants would be required for using the EFA for this questionnaire development study (12–14).

Results

Baseline Sociodemographic Profile of the Respondents

A total of 343 study respondents were participating in this study, with a majority being female (74.8%) whose age ranges from 35 to 44 years (39.4%). More than three-quarters of these respondents are married (79.7%). Half of them are Bidayuh (50%). The largest proportion of these respondents are from the Medical Service Department (55.3%). Nearly half of them are nurses or community nurses (42.1%), whose job grades range from 27–40 (43.7%). The highest

| | n | % |
|---------------------------------|-----|------|
| Gender | | |
| Male | 258 | 25.2 |
| Female | 87 | 74.8 |
| Age | | |
| 21 to 34 | 108 | 31.5 |
| 35 to 44 | 135 | 39.4 |
| 45 to 54 | 75 | 21.9 |
| 55 or older | 25 | 7.3 |
| Marital status | | |
| Divorced/Widowed | 15 | 4.4 |
| Married | 271 | 79.7 |
| Single | 54 | 15.9 |
| Ethnicity | | |
| Bidayuh | 169 | 50.0 |
| Chinese | 56 | 16.6 |
| Iban | 30 | 8.9 |
| Malay | 67 | 19.8 |
| Melanau | 9 | 2.7 |
| Others | 7 | 2.1 |
| Department | | |
| Administration | 47 | 13.8 |
| Diagnostic and clinical support | 48 | 14.1 |
| Medical service | 188 | 55.3 |
| Surgical service | 24 | 7.1 |
| Woman and child service | 33 | 9.7 |
| Position | | |
| Administration staff | 31 | 9.6 |
| Allied health | 36 | 11.2 |
| Assistant medical officer | 26 | 8.1 |
| Medical care assistant | 18 | 5.5 |
| Medical officer | 35 | 10.8 |
| Nurse/Community nurse | 136 | 42.1 |
| Pharmacist/Assistant pharmacist | 20 | 6.2 |
| Specialist/Consultant | 9 | 2.8 |
| Others | 12 | 3.7 |
| Work experience | | 0.7 |
| Less than 1 year | 18 | 5.3 |
| 1 year to less than 2 years | 17 | 4.9 |
| 2 years to less then 5 years | 60 | 17.4 |
| 5 years to less than 10 years | 97 | 28.4 |
| 10 years or more | 150 | 43.9 |

Table 1. Characteristics of respondents from government healthcare workers in Kuching division

number of respondents consists of those who had worked in the hospital for more than 10 years (43.9%) whose monthly salary ranges from RM3,000 to less than RM5,000 (43.9%) (Table 1).

Job Satisfaction Questionnaire

After conducting EFA using the PCA with varimax rotation method, which extracted those factors with Eigenvalues > 1, the proposed JS-Q questionnaire had been designed to consist of 39 questions that were categorised in 8 domains, namely: i) Leadership (8 questions); ii) Training and development (5 questions); iii) Teamwork iv) questions); Empowerment (7 and participation (5 questions); v) Working condition (3 questions) and vi) Reward and recognition vii) Communication questions); (5 (3 questions) and viii) Flexibility of working hours (3 questions). The domain of 'Working condition' was split into 2 sub-domains, namely: working condition and flexibility of working hours. All the items in the JS-Q were found to fit well within their respective domains, based on their content and also through determination by using relevant statistical computations. For all the domains of JS-Q, the minimum factor loading for each item was 0.500, the value of coefficient of Cronbach's alpha was at least 0.850 and its corrected item-total correlation was at least 0.600.

The construct which was developed by using EFA was later re-examined using CFA to determine its model fit. The Chi-square/ df was 2.739 with RMSEA was 0.067 although both TLI and CFI were slightly lower than 0.90 (Table 2). Five items were deleted because they did not demonstrate adequate content validity (since they failed to result in measures that will adequately sample the theoretical domain of interest) and also there was an excessive amount

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of covariance error terms (as suggested by the modification indices of the measurement model). These five items were deleted one by one until the model reached a satisfactory model fit.

The final version of the JS-Q now consists of only 34 items that were categorised in 8 domains, namely: i) Leadership (5 questions); ii) Training and development (5 questions); iii) Teamwork (5 questions); iv) Empowerment and participation (5 questions); v) Working conditions (3 questions); vi) Reward and recognition (5 questions); vii) Communication (3 questions) and viii) Flexibility of working hours (3 questions). Several indicators of the goodness of fit of the model were found to be satisfactory with Chi-square/df < 3.0, RMSEA = 0.06, both TLI and CFI were higher than 0.9 and also its AIC = 1467.8 was found lower than that of the original version of JS-Q which consists of 39 questions (AIC = 2151.1) (Table 2).

Next, the construct of the final version of JS-Q was tested by using EFA which revealed that the EFA factor solution did not adequately incorporate all the total 8 domains into the conceptual framework of JS-Q. However, when EFA was conducted on the same subset of participants for determining the factor structure of the 34-items of the final version of JS-Q, and such factor analyses were repeated until a solution in which all the items included in the analysis had met all these criteria was obtained, it was again found that the same 8 domains together with their respective items would then be incorporated into the conceptual framework of JS-Q after the EFA had successfully extracted an 8-factor solution in a 34-item measure. For all these 8 domains extracted by EFA, the minimum factor loading for each item was 0.500, the value of coefficient of Cronbach's alpha was at least 0.750 and its corrected item-total correlation was at least 0.500 (Table 3).

Table 2. Model fit indices of JS-Q 39 items versus JS-Q 34 items

| Model fit indices | JS-Q 39 items | JS-Q 34 items |
|-----------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| CMIN | 2.739 | 2.404 |
| Tucker Lewis Index (TLI) | 0.884 | 0.0913 |
| Comparative Fit Index (CFI) | 0.891 | 0.919 |
| RMSEA | 0.067 | 0.06 |
| AIC | 2151.147 | 1467.766 |

| Domains in JS-Q | | | | | | | Cronbach's alpha | | |
|-----------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------------------|-------|---------------|
| Items | TW | LD | RR | EP | TD | WH | С | WC | (min CITC) |
| TW1 | 0.844 | | | | | | | | 0.924 (0.781) |
| TW2 | 0.797 | | | | | | | | |
| TW3 | 0.787 | | | | | | | | |
| TW4 | 0.785 | | | | | | | | |
| TW5 | 0.699 | | | | | | | | |
| LD1 | | 0.799 | | | | | | | 0.930 (0.755) |
| LD2 | | 0.778 | | | | | | | |
| LD3 | | 0.758 | | | | | | | |
| LD4 | | 0.741 | | | | | | | |
| LD5 | | 0.628 | | | | | | | |
| RR1 | | | 0.870 | | | | | | 0.879 (0.720) |
| RR2 | | | 0.789 | | | | | | |
| RR3 | | | 0.771 | | | | | | |
| RR4 | | | 0.766 | | | | | | |
| RR5 | | | 0.607 | | | | | | |
| EP1 | | | | 0.827 | | | | | 0.876 (0.608) |
| EP2 | | | | 0.821 | | | | | |
| EP3 | | | | 0.808 | | | | | |
| EP4 | | | | 0.673 | | | | | |
| EP5 | | | | 0.529 | | | | | |
| TD1 | | | | | 0.783 | | | | 0.878 (0.716) |
| TD2 | | | | | 0.747 | | | | |
| TD3 | | | | | 0.693 | | | | |
| TD4 | | | | | 0.679 | | | | |
| TD5 | | | | | 0.600 | | | | |
| WH1 | | | | | | 0.840 | | | 0.826 (0.590) |
| WH2 | | | | | | 0.789 | | | |
| WH3 | | | | | | 0.592 | | | |
| C1 | | | | | | | 0.735 | | 0.871 (0.725) |
| C2 | | | | | | | 0.719 | | |
| C3 | | | | | | | 0.656 | | |
| WC1 | | | | | | | | 0.795 | 0.751 (0.548) |
| WC2 | | | | | | | | 0.740 | |
| WC ₃ | | | | | | | | 0.525 | |

Table 3. Result of EFA and internal consistency for JS-Q which consists of 34 items and 8 domains

Notes: Model fit indices based on CFA are described in Table 1; EFA was conducted based on PCA using the varimax rotation method and and the factor solution is forced into eight domains; TW = Teamwork; LD = Leadership; RR = Rewards and recognitions; EP = Empowerment; TD = Training and development; WH = Flexibility of working hours; C = Communication; WC = Working condition

Discussion

The JS-Q was initially developed and validated as a new, self-administered instrument for measuring job satisfaction among all the hospital staff. The final construct of the JS-Q has now been designed to consist of a total of 8 domains with 34 items, along with an additional domain (namely, flexibility of working hours) being incorporated into the original conceptual framework of the study (Figure 2). Thus, the conceptual framework of this JS-Q is now based on 8 domains, namely: i) Leadership; ii) Training and development; iii) Teamwork; iv) Empowerment and participation; v) Reward and recognition; vi) Communication; vii) Working conditions and viii) Flexibility of working hours.

It is likely for both leadership style and organisational culture to have a positive influence on an employee's level of job satisfaction, especially when the leaders have a vision which is aligned with their organisational culture, which typically occurs within the framework of a transformational leadership. As a result, both employees and their superiors will cooperate not only for the sake of organisation's well-being, but also for the fulfilment of their personal needs and desires (7). Meanwhile, the provision of in-house training for human resource development will provide numerous benefits to an organisation, especially in relation to preventing errors, improving workplace safety and decreasing staff turnover. It may also be helpful for an organisation to cultivate a learning environment, which may promote innovation and impart a friendlier and more conducive organisational culture. To do so, it is necessary to specifically allocate adequate financial resources for expanding such efforts (9).

Executive leaders and managers should reinforce the importance of teamwork among all employees because effective teamwork will enable them to align themselves towards a common goal, thereby enhancing employees' motivation and a sense of belonging, which will indirectly boost their level of job satisfaction. By doing so, the employees will also be motivated to accomplish a mutual goal (7). On the other hand, the empowerment of employees and their participation should first be initiated by the top management. To do so, it involves moving the capacity for decision-making to the lowest possible level within the organisation. Hence, the employers will empower all the employees by strongly encouraging them to open up by

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meeting together to discuss any matters arising from their work, as well as any other matters arising from their job functions, whether it involves managerial decisions and/or high-level policies (7). Besides that, organisations will also have to develop a formal reward and recognition system to enlist the support of employees, by engaging them in teamwork. In order to ensure that due recognition will be given to any significant contribution and/or effort made by an employee, all the departments of an organisation should also be rewarded as a gesture to promote and support the attainment of a particular performance level as a common goal within the whole organisation (8).

Communication is a basic tool that is used at all levels of the working environment as well as between the top management and the workforce at the ground level. Managers will be better equipped to foster job satisfaction and effective organisational commitment through a proper channel for internal communication wherein they recognise and acknowledge all the input from the employees. Managers must have a clear understanding of both the quantity and quality of information sought by the employees if they intend to design an effective two-way internal communication channel that meets the information needs of an employee (5). By doing so, all the employees will regularly be provided with information from the management from time to time, and are also given an opportunity to be heard by the management; thereby both the employees and the management staff will have a closer knit of working relationship together.

The initial items for specifying the concept of 'working condition' in JS-Q was split into two, namely 'working condition' and 'flexibility of working hours'. The original conceptual framework of the construct of JS-Q had defined the term 'working condition' as 'the condition under which a job has been performed'. This can be influenced by i) external factors that include climate; ii) subjective factors that include fatigue, monotony and unfavourable posture etc; iii) factors related to the organisation of production such as duration of work shift, design of work schedule and duration of working time, etc. (6).

It is commonly known that the working condition can have a significant effect on job satisfaction because it can influence the quality of the physical environment where they would be working. Therefore, the term 'working condition' can include many aspects of the working environment such as adequate workspace,

appropriate level of lighting, minimal noise level, thermal comfort working area, the provision of essential utilities such as electricity and water supply, and the availability of office equipment. Management should also provide ergonomicallydesigned workspaces that enhance employees' health and well-being (4). Flexibility of working hours is now becoming increasingly important among the workers. Many organisations now begin to offer flexible working hours to employees due to the potential benefits that such a flexibility can bring to both the employers and their employees. Examples of these benefits include a higher level of employee productivity along with a higher level of organisational profitability. Most importantly, the option of flexible working hours can also promote and maintain work-life balance among the workforce, which is an important aspect of a healthy work environment (15).

The existing literature on the many different facets of 'job satisfaction' have all supported the construct of all the expected 8 domains of a job satisfaction measure in JS-Q. In addition, the evidence of reliability and validity of the scales in JS-Q was also provided by both EFA and CFA. Although the re-analysis of the final construct of JS-Q by using the EFA with the added criterion of having an eigenvalue of > 1for retaining the items for an ideal construct (in order to improve the overall model fit) did not manage to incorporate all the expected 8 distinct domains into the conceptual framework of the construct of this questionnaire, however we can nevertheless still be confidently using EFA to successfully extract an 8-factor solution in a 34item measure by incorporating all the 8 domains together with each of their respective items into the conceptual framework of the construct of this JS-Q. This was done by conducting EFA on the same subset of participants to determine the factor structure of this questionnaire and these factor analyses were repeated until a factor solution which incorporated all the items that had fulfilled the criteria was identified. This justifies why the authors should rightfully insist on maintaining the existing 8 domains since they have already provided a good reflection of its conceptual framework which had been developed previously. Most importantly, all the model fit indices of the final construct of this JS-Q (consisting of 34 items) were found to be satisfactory, which means that the final construct of the questionnaire has a better model fit than

the previous construct of JS-Q (consisting of 39 items).

This also explains why if the researchers conducted the EFA by using the criterion of having an eigenvalue of > 1 for retaining the items for an ideal construct, but did not manage to identify a construct consisting of 8 domains in the final construct of 34-item measure of JS-Q; then it will be strongly recommended for the researchers to conduct EFA again on the same subset of participants to determine the factor structure of this questionnaire, and then to repeat all the factor analyses until a factor solution in which all the items that have fulfilled all criteria are now included in the analysis. This is an important and necessary step for the researchers to identify a model specification that forces all the 8 domains into the factor solution during the factor analysis. In addition, as long as the internal consistency for each domain of the construct is found to be satisfactorily high (i.e. > 0.65) and the model fit was assessed to be satisfactory by CFA, then the construct of JS-Q can be considered a reliable and valid study instrument for measuring job satisfaction.

A major strength of this study is that its findings are demonstrated to have relevance in many important practical and theoretical applications. Apart from its use for measuring job satisfaction among the internal workforce within the organisation and also for research purposes, this study has identified a new independent domain which can be used to assess the job satisfaction dimension, namely flexible working hours. Moreover, this study has also determined the high significance of this new domain which is then subsequently incorporated it into the final construct of the JS-Q.

Another major achievement of this study for the validation of this JS-Q is that both its reliability and validity were found to be satisfactory, which was substantiated by the appropriate selection of the items for each of the respective domains together with an adequate sample size of study respondents who were recruited for this study. This study had recruited a total of 343 respondents and hence it is clear that this sample size has greatly exceeded the minimum sample size required for both EFA and CFA (12–14).

However, an important limitation of this study is that the authors of this study are well aware of the fact that although this JS-Q has been validated among healthcare workers, its psychometric properties (i.e. assessment of its validity and reliability) remain untested in workers of other fields. We therefore encourage the JS-Q to be validated in different languages as well as to apply it within various other types of organisations. For example, it is possible to replace the term 'hospital' with another term such as 'healthcare organisation' or 'healthcare department' so that the JS-Q can then potentially be applied in other types of organisational settings.

Insofar that it is the authors' intention to generalise the applicability of this JS-Q to a broader range of study respondents, however it must still be noted that further studies are required to confirm its reliability and validity as a research instrument for use in workers of other fields since this study had recruited only healthcare workers as its study respondents. Therefore, it may not be valid for the results obtained from this study to be extrapolated to other study settings and/or study respondents apart from the healthcare industry.

Conclusion

The JS-Q is found to be both a valid and reliable study instrument for measuring job satisfaction among the healthcare workers and can also be recommended for use in several other related purposes, such as in management and research that involve an assessment of job satisfaction. Hence, it is now recommended for the JS-Q to be used for measuring job satisfaction among healthcare workers. Lastly, the authors also strongly recommend the readers to apply the items contained in the JS-Q 34 items (Appendix 1) for use as a research instrument to measure job satisfaction among employees in many different organisational settings other than the healthcare sector, in which it had originally been developed and validated, as long as its psychometric properties have been fully tested and it has been found to be both a valid and reliable instrument prior to using it in all these settings.

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank the Director General of Health Malaysia for his permission to publish this article and Mr Hon Yoon Khee for proofreading this article. We also appreciate our officers who have helped us in the recruitment of respondents in respondents' recruitment in Original Article | Job satisfaction questionnaire

Sarawak General Hospital, Bau Hospital and Lundu Hospital.

Ethics of Study

Ethical approval for this study was obtained from the Medical Research and Ethics Committee (MREC), Ministry of Health Malaysia (NMRR 18-3166-41968).

Conflict of Interest

None.

Funds

None.

Authors' Contributions

Conception and design: NFDA, AKRJ, MAB Analysis and interpretation of the data: NFDA, AKRJ, MAB, ZZ Drafting of the article: NFDA, AKRJ, MAB Critical revision of the article for important intellectual content: MAB Final approval of the article: AKRJ, MAB, ZZ Provision of study materials or patients: NFDA Statistical expertise: MAB Obtaining of funding: AKRJ Administrative, technical, or logistic support: AKRJ Collection and assembly of data: NFDA, ZZ

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Appendix 1

HOSPITAL INTERNAL CLIENT SATISFACTION SURVEY/KAJI SELIDIK TAHAP KEPUASAN KAKITANGAN HOSPITAL

Please read each statement carefully and determine the degree to which you agree with these statements below. Kindly take your organisation into consideration as you respond to each statement. Please mark only 1 answer for each statement.

Sila baca setiap penyataan di bawah dengan teliti dan tentukan tahap sejauh mana anda bersetuju terhadap penyataan berikut. Sila pertimbangkan organisasi anda dalam menjawab setiap penyataan. Sila tanda hanya 1 jawapan bagi setiap penyataan.

| | | Strongly disagree/ Sangat tidak setuju | Disagree/ Tidak setuju | Uncertain/ Tidak pasti | Agree/Setuju | Strongly agree/ Sangat setuju |
|----|--|---|---------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. | My co-workers are committed to doing quality work. Rakan sekerja saya komited untuk melakukan kerja yang berkualiti. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 2. | It is easy to get along with my colleagues. Adalah sangat mudah untuk bergaul dengan rakan sekerja saya. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 3. | I feel part of a team in working towards shared goals. Saya merasakan saya berada di dalam satu pasukan dalam mencapai matlamat kerja yang sama. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 4. | I experience a spirit of cooperation in this organisation. Saya dapat merasakan semangat bekerjasama di dalam organisasi ini. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 5. | I receive assistance from co-workers when necessary. Saya mendapat bantuan dari rakan sekerja bila diperlukan. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

A. Teamwork (TW) / Kerja Berpasukan

B. Leadership (LD) / Kepimpinan

| | | Strongly disagree/ Sangat tidak setuju | Disagree/ Tidak setuju | Uncertain/ Tidak pasti | Agree/Setuju | Strongly agree/ Sangat setuju |
|----|---|---|---------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. | My supervisor/senior manager visibly demonstrates a commitment to quality. <i>Penyelia saya menunjukkan komitmen dalam</i> <i>menghasilkan kerja yang berkualiti.</i> | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 2. | It is clear to me what my supervisor expects of me regarding my job performance. Penyelia saya menerangkan dengan jelas mengenai harapan beliau berkenaan prestasi kerja saya. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 3. | My supervisor is able to address my questions or concerns. Penyelia saya dapat menangani soalan atau kebimbangan saya. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 4. | My supervisor has strong management skills. Penyelia saya mempunyai kemahiran pengurusan yang bagus. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

C. Reward and Recognition (RR) / Ganjaran dan Pengiktirafan

| | Strongly disagree/ Sangat tidak setuju | Disagree/ Tidak setuju | Uncertain/ Tidak pasti | Agree/Setuju | Strongly agree/ Sangat setuju |
|---|---|---------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. My base pay is fair for my responsibilities. Gaji pokok saya adalah berpatutan untuk pekerjaan saya. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 2. The annual raise is reasonable. Kadar kenaikan gaji tahunan saya adalah munasabah. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 3. I am satisfied with the retirement plan. Saya berpuas hati dengan pelan persaraan saya. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| The process used to determine promotions/annual raises is just and fair. Proses kenaikan gaji tahunan dan kenaikan pangkat adalah adil dan saksama. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 5. I received the right amount of recognition or praise for work that is well done. Saya menerima penghargaan yang sewajarnya untuk pencapaian cemerlang saya. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

Original Article | Job satisfaction questionnaire

| | | Strongly disagree/ Sangat tidak setuju | Disagree/ Tidak setuju | Uncertain/ Tidak pasti | A gree /Setuju | Strongly agree/ Sangat setuju |
|----|--|---|---------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. | I understand the vision of my organisation. Saya memahami visi organisasi saya. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 2. | The mission and purpose of my organisation make me feel that my job is important. <i>Misi dan matlamat organisasi membuatkan saya</i> <i>merasakan pekerjaan saya sangat penting.</i> | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 3. | I feel I've contributed to the organisation's plan and mission. Saya merasakan saya menyumbang kepada rancangan dan misi organisasi. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 4. | My job makes good use of my skills and abilities. Kerja saya memanfaatkan kemahiran dan kebolehan saya. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 5. | I am satisfied with my involvement in decisions that affect my work. Saya berpuas hati dengan penglibatan saya dalam membuat keputusan di dalam pekerjaan saya. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

D. Empowerment and Participation (EP) / Penguasaan dan Penyertaan dalam Organisasi

E. Training and Individual Development (TD) / Latihan dan Perkembangan Individu

| | | Strongly disagree/ Sangat tidak setuju | Disagree/ Tidak setuju | Uncertain/ Tidak pasti | Agree/ Setuju | Strongly agree/ Sangat setuju |
|----|---|---|---------------------------|---------------------------|------------------|--|
| 1. | My initial training provided by the hospital was sufficient. Latihan/kursus awal yang diberikan oleh pihak hospital kepada saya adalah mencukupi. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 2. | As much ongoing training I need is provided by the Hospital. Pihak hospital menyediakan latihan/kursus berterusan yang diperlukan oleh saya. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 3. | Training offered by the organisation helps me to be effective and efficient in my job. Latihan/kursus yang ditawarkan membantu saya menjadi lebih cemerlang dan cekap dalam kerja. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 4. | The organisation encourages continued education and professional growth. Organisasi ini menggalakkan pembelajaran berterusan dan perkembangan dalam kerjaya. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 5. | I have opportunities at work to learn and grow. Saya diberi peluang di tempat kerja untuk belajar dan mengembangkan kerjaya saya. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

F. Working Hours (WH) / Masa Bekerja

| | | Strongly disagree/ Sangat tidak setnju | Disagree/ Tidak setuju | Uncertain/ Tidak pasti | Agree/ Setuju | Strongly agree/ Sangat setuju |
|----------------------------|---|---|---------------------------|---------------------------|------------------|--|
| | am satisfied with my total working hours. aya berpuas hati dengan jumlah waktu bekerja saya. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Sc | am given the flexibility in scheduling my working hours. aya diberikan kelonggaran dalam mengatur waktu ekerja saya. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| in et Sc yc sa | have the flexibility to manage my work and nonwork aterests e.g. caring responsibilities, study, sports interests, ac. aya diberi kelonggaran dalam menguruskan perkara ang berkaitan ataupun tidak berkaitan dengan pekerjaan aya seperti sukan, pembelajaran dan tanggungjawab tin. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

G. Communication (C) / Komunikasi

| | | Strongly disagree/ Sangat tidak setuju | Disagree/ Tidak setuju | Uncertain/ Tidak pasti | Agree/Setuju | Strongly agree/ Sangat setuju |
|----|---|---|---------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. | This organisation does an excellent job of keeping employees informed about matters affecting us. <i>Organisasi ini telah berjaya menyampaikan informasi</i> <i>yang tepat berkenaan sesuatu perkara</i> . | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 2. | Management clearly explains the reasons behind decisions on key issues. Pihak pengurusan menyatakan sebab yang jelas di sebalik setiap keputusan berkaitan isu-isu utama. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 3. | I know where to go within the organisation to obtain information that I need. Saya mengetahui tempat rujukan di dalam organisasi saya untuk mendapatkan maklumat yang saya perlukan. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 4. | My supervisor clearly communicates his/her expectations of my job performance. Penyelia saya menyampaikan harapannya tentang prestasi kerja saya dengan jelas. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

Original Article | Job satisfaction questionnaire

H. Working Condition (WC) / Persekitaran Kerja

| | Strongly disagree/ Sangat tidak setuju | Disagree/ Tidak setuju | Uncertain/ Tidak pasti | Agree/ Setuju | Strongly agree/ Sangat setuju |
|--|---|---------------------------|---------------------------|------------------|--|
| My physical working conditions (lighting, ventilation, ergonomic, etc) are good. Persekitaran kerja saya (pencahayaan, pengudaraan, ergonomik, dan lain-lain) sangat bagus. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 2. I have the tools and resources that I need in order to do my work right. Saya mempunyai sumber dan alatan yang mencukupi untuk melakukan pekerjaan saya. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 3. The amount of work expected of me is reasonable. Jumlah beban kerja saya adalah berpatutan. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |