

# Development and Content Validation of the 10-item Well-being Instrument (WiX) for use in Economic Evaluation Studies

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### Abstract

It's increasingly recognized that the evaluative space of economic evaluations in health and social care needs to be broadened and instruments measuring well-being are required. A generic measure of well-being comprehensively capturing all relevant domains of well-being in the adult population is not available. The aim is to describe the development of such an instrument, the 10-item Well-being instrument (WiX), and to report the findings from a content validation study. A draft version of the instrument was based on available instruments pursuing the same aim, a comprehensive theoretical framework of the domains of well-being, and recent empirical evidence from the general population about the constituents of well-being. Content validation was conducted following COSMIN methodology and investigated relevance, comprehensiveness, and comprehensibility. In the qualitative content validation, semi-structured interviews were conducted with experts and members of the general population. During quantitative content validation, a representative sample (n=501) from the general population completed an online survey. The qualitative validation showed the relevance and comprehensiveness of the WiX were adequate, but several changes were made to consecutive draft versions of the items and their descriptions and response levels to improve comprehensibility. The quantitative validation confirmed these findings and resulted in some additional, minor changes. A new instrument aiming to capture overall (or general) quality-of-life in terms of subjective well-being by measuring how satisfied people are on ten important domains of life in the adult general population was developed. The content validation results are encouraging, but further validation and valuation steps are necessary before the WiX can be used in (economic) evaluation studies of interventions with impacts broader than health.

Keywords Outcomes · Well-being · Measurement · Content Validity · WiX

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### Introduction

Economic evaluations typically compare interventions in terms of their costs and benefits, in order to assess their value for money (Drummond et al., 2005). Ultimately, such evaluations can inform optimal allocations of scarce resources within and across different sectors. Within the healthcare sector, economic evaluations often take the form of a cost-utility analysis, in which benefits are expressed in terms of Quality-Adjusted Life-Years (QALY), a health utility index encompassing both length and quality of life. Health utilities are expressed on a scale anchored on the health state "dead" with value 0 and the health state "perfect health" with a value of 1. Being in perfect health for one year represents 1 QALY. An intervention that provides a quality-of-life improvement to a patient of 0.1 QALY per year during 10 years, produces a benefit of 1 QALY (abstracting from discounting). The quality-of-life component is typically confined to health-related quality of life (HRQoL), measured by generic instruments such as the EuroQol instrument (EQ-5D) (EuroQol Group, 1990), the Short-Form Health Survey (SF-36) (Ware & Sherbourne, 1992) or the Health Utilities Index (HUI) (Furlong et al., 2001). This closely conforms to the notion that healthcare decision makers would be especially -or even exclusively- interested in producing health (measured as HRQoL) from the available healthcare budget.

In recent years, however, it has been asserted that the evaluative space commonly adopted in economic evaluations might be too narrow. Health (and social) care interventions may not always aim to improve (only or primarily) health, but (also) broader elements of quality-of-life, or well-being (Coast, 2004; Payne et al., 2013; Weatherly et al., 2009). The fact that such interventions are commonly funded from healthcare budgets may signal that healthcare decision makers thus also consider broader benefits from interventions than only health. Areas in which this seems especially relevant include social care, palliative care, longterm care and elderly care, but prevention and cure may also have effects above and beyond health (Coast, 2014; Hackert et al., 2021; Makai et al., 2014; Milte et al., 2014). In such cases, an adequate comparison of costs and benefits of interventions and a fair assessment of their value for money requires that the instruments used to measure the benefits from interventions capture all the relevant outcomes. Failing to do so may lead to a misrepresentation of the societal value of interventions, suboptimal decision making and, ultimately, to misallocation of scarce public resources.

Over the past years, the recognition that the evaluative space of economic evaluations in healthcare needs to be broadened has stimulated the development of instruments to measure well-being. Although many of such instruments exist across disciplines, only few have been developed for use in the context of (health) economic evaluations and fulfil the necessary criteria for this purpose (Makai et al., 2014). Most importantly, several multi-dimensional measures of well-being lack preference-based weights to summarize the dimension scores into a single utility index. Prominent examples of measures with such preference-based utility weights, which are hence suitable for use in economic evaluations, include

the ICEpop CAPability (ICECAP) measures (Al-Janabi et al., 2012; Coast et al., 2008; Grewal et al., 2006), the Adult Social Care Outcome Toolkit (ASCOT) (Netten et al., 2012), and the Well-being of Older People (WOOP) measure (Hackert et al., 2021). These instruments, however, differ in their conceptualisation and operationalisation of well-being. While all these measures are (or seem to be) grounded in capability theory, which focuses on peoples' functionings and their capabilities (Binder, 2014; Robeyns, 2005, 2006; Sen, 1985), the ASCOT and the WOOP seem to focus more on the functionings of people in different life domains (i.e., what they are and do), while the ICECAP measures focus on capabilities (i.e., the freedoms or opportunities they have to be and do their potential functionings). In addition, these instruments differ in scope and target population, that is, whether they measure well-being generically or in specific subgroups or contexts (e.g., ICECAP-O and WOOP for older people, ASCOT for health and social care users). They also differ in terms of measuring wellbeing partially or comprehensively (e.g., ICECAP does not measure health directly, but also does not seem to capture all elements of health indirectly (Hackert et al., 2017)). Finally, only for the WOOP the utility weights have been anchored on a scale from dead (0) to perfect well-being (1), which facilitates combining length and quality of life effects in computing the well-being benefits of an intervention for use in cost-utility analyses (Himmler et al., 2022). Recently, the EuroQol Group introduced the EuroQol Health and Well-being (EQ-HWB) instrument (Brazier et al., 2022), which, in terms of included domains and scope, appears to be primarily based on existing quality of life measures aimed at users of health and social care services and carers (Carlton et al., 2022) and also focuses on measuring functionings.

Taken together, one may argue that a generic measure of well-being for use in economic evaluations that captures all relevant domains of well-being in the adult population comprehensively is not yet available. In addition, there seems to be scope for a measure with an alternative conceptual framework. As mentioned above, the currently most used measures are (or seem to be) grounded in capability theory (Robeyns, 2005, 2006; Sen, 1985). Although the capability approach has been praised for offering a broad conceptual framework to the assessment of quality of life, it does not specify a (core) set of capabilities or functionings that have value to people and could be used for the operationalisation of the approach in practice. Moreover, the approach is unclear about how any chosen set of capabilities or functionings can be valued, aggregated and traded-off for assessments of overall well-being (Binder, 2014; Hasan, 2019; van der Deijl et al., 2023). Subjective well-being (defined here as enduring satisfaction with life-as-a-whole, or happiness (Veenhoven, 2012)) offers an alternative framework in which assessments of well-being are grounded in peoples' individual judgements of their life situation, which include -but is not confined to- their capabilities and functionings. Important critiques include the multitude of measures, the lack of evidence about the validity and reliability of these measures for policy evaluation (Hausman, 2015) as well as the role of adaptation in well-being measurement (Frederick & Loewenstein, 1999; Stöckel et al., 2023). Often used single-item measures of subjective well-being preserve the sovereignty of individuals to incorporate whatever they find important in their assessment of their overall quality of life, which at the same time means that it remains unclear what was incorporated in the assessment. Multi-item measures of subjective well-being aim for a common measurement of the concept across people but are susceptible to criticism of paternalism, as the domains included in the instrument eventually determine what is measured and valued (van der Deijl, 2017).

The aim of this paper is to describe the development of a well-being instrument that measures individual welfare in terms of people's own assessment of their lifeas-a-whole (Veenhoven, 2012). This new instrument, the 10-item Well-being instrument (abbreviated as WiX, with 'W' referring to 'well-being', 'i' to instrument', and 'X' to the 10 domains of well-being that the instrument covers), thus aims to capture overall (or general) quality-of-life in terms of subjective well-being by measuring how satisfied people are in a number of important domains of life. To relate the conceptualisation of the WiX to the capability approach, satisfaction with life can be seen as fulfilment (with the achievement) of a set of happiness-relevant functionings (Binder, 2014; Sen, 1985).<sup>1</sup> The development of the WiX was theory driven, building systematically on several theories of well-being and explorative empirical work (van der Deijl et al., 2023) as well as existing generic instruments to ensure its comprehensiveness. In addition, the conceptualisation of the WiX as a multiitem instrument follows the notion of pragmatic subjectivism (Haybron & Tiberius, 2015), which states that confining measurement to a limited set of indicators is legitimate for policy evaluation if the indicators are based on personal well-being values, that is, what citizens consider important for their well-being (see also Alexandrova, 2016; van Exel, 2017). Given its broad evaluative space, the WiX is not only intended to be suitable for use in (economic) evaluations of interventions in health and social care, but also in other sectors and across sectors. This also allows intersectoral comparisons. With its focus on measuring satisfaction with life, the WiX is complementary to existing measures of well-being for use in economic evaluations.

The remainder of this paper describes the development of the WiX, a multidimensional instrument that aims to measure well-being in the adult general population comprehensively for use in (economic) evaluation studies and reports the findings from a content validation study.

### Methods & Data

### **Development of the Instrument**

Figure 1 provides an overview of all steps taken to develop the draft version of the WiX.

As the first step in developing the new instrument, one of the authors (A1; blinded for review) conducted a scoping review (Grant & Booth, 2009) to identify

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See, for instance, Comim (2005). Capabilities and Happiness: Potential Synergies. *Review of Social Economy*, 63(2), 161–176. https://doi.org/10.1080/00346760500129871 for a broader discussion of the differences and similarities between the capability and life satisfaction approaches.



Fig. 1 Overview of 12 steps in development of a draft version of the WiX

existing instruments that aim to measure well-being. A total of 16 instruments were identified (in alphabetical order): Control, Autonomy, Self-Realization and Pleasure-19 (CASP-19) (Hyde et al., 2003); Extending the Quality-Adjusted Life Year (E-QALY)<sup>2</sup> (Mukuria et al., 2018); ICEpop CAPability measure for Older people/ Adults (ICECAP-O/-A) (Grewal et al., 2006)/(Al-Janabi et al., 2012); Living Standards Framework (LSF) (Treasury, 2018); Office of National Statistics (ONS) four subjective wellbeing questions (ONS-4) (ONS, 2017); Personal Well-being Index Scale (PWI) (Group, 2013); Psychological Well-being Scale (PWS) (Ryff, 1989); Quality of Life – Aged Care Consumers (QOL-ACC) (Ratcliffe et al., 2019); Quality of Life at the End of Life (QUAL-E) (Steinhauser et al., 2002); Quality of Well-being Scale self-administered (QWB-SA) (Sieber et al., 2008); Self-Evaluated Quality of Life Questionnaire (SEQOL) (Ventegodt et al., 2003); Social Production Function Instrument for the Level of well-being (SPF-IL) (Nieboer et al.,

 $<sup>^2</sup>$  The E-QALY is the predecessor of the EQ-HWB (Brazier et al., 2022), for our analyses we made use of the first draft version of the E-QALY.

2005); The Adult Social Care Outcomes Toolkit (ASCOT) (Netten et al., 2012); The World Health Organization Quality of Life (WHOQOL) (Group, 1997); Well-being Adjusted Life Years (WALY) (Birkjær et al., 2020); Well-being of Older People (WOOP) (Hackert et al., 2020).

In the second step, four authors (A1, A3, A4, A5) jointly assessed these 16 instruments and selected those that have a similar aim as the planned new instrument, namely: (1) multi-domain (or multi-attribute) instruments; (2) measuring (fulfilment with) functionings or satisfaction with life; and (3) focused on measuring well-being in the adult general population. In the end, 8 of the 16 instruments were retained for further analysis: E-QALY, ONS-4, PWI, PWS, QWB-SA, SPF-IL, WALY and WHOQOL. For example, the WOOP was not selected because it was specifically developed for the older population, and the ICECAP-A was not selected because it is focused on measuring capability well-being.

In the third step, one author (A1) assessed these eight instruments more thoroughly by identifying the key publications underlying each instrument and creating an overview of their aim, approach to development, domain (or item) and level structure, instructions for users, available languages, and sources of funding for the development of the instrument. This information was summarized in a large table (not reported here because of its size). Next, in the fourth step, two authors (A1, A5) cross-tabulated the domains and items of these eight instruments against the domains of a theoretical framework outlined by van der Deijl et al. (van der Deijl et al., 2023) that synthesized the main existing theories of well-being. This framework distinguished 11 domains of well-being, namely: physical health; safety; recreation and leisure; mental well-being; political representation; mental development; environmental conditions; social relations; material well-being; labour conditions; and achievements (see Table S1 in online Supplementary Information 1). This showed that the domains of the eight selected instruments covered 10 of the 11 domains of the theoretical framework, with the exception of political representation. In addition, some domains of the eight instruments could not be matched to 1 of the 11 domains of the theoretical framework unambiguously and were provisionally categorized as 'other' (in additional row Table S1).

In the fifth step, one of the authors (A1) created a table with an overview of all domains (or items) of the selected instruments and their descriptions per remaining domain of the theoretical framework (i.e., excluding political representation) (table not reported because of its size). In the sixth step, two authors (A1, A5) reviewed this table and synthesized the identified domains and items from the selected instruments by merging domains and items with similar meaning and harmonizing the wording of the resulting items and their descriptions (see Table S2 in online Supplementary Information 2, columns 1–3). Based on this, an initial version of the domains from the theoretical framework, the synthesis of items and their descriptions for each domain, and draft names and descriptions for the 10 items of the new instrument (see Table S2 in online Supplementary Information 2, columns 1–5).

In the seventh step, two other authors (A3, A4) independently reviewed the approach, decisions, and results of steps three to six. Their feedback was discussed and implemented in a joint meeting with the whole research team. We agreed that

the domain political representation would be excluded from the new instrument, because it was not represented in any of the selected instruments and was also not considered an important constituent of well-being among the adult population of the Netherlands (van der Deijl et al., 2023). This decision was, however, flagged as an item to be verified with experts and members of the public in the content validation phase. In addition, we decided that none of the domains or items of the eight selected instruments categorized as 'other' in the fourth step (see bottom row of Table S1 in online Supplementary Information 1) needed to be included in the new instrument in addition to the already distinguished ten domains. Appendix 1 provides more details on these changes. Finally, several changes were made to the wording of the names and descriptions of the domains, and draft names were created for the ten items of the new instrument, hence each item corresponds to one specific domain (see Table S2 in online Supplementary Information 2, columns 4–6; see Appendix 1).

In the eighth step, to evaluate the comprehensiveness of the draft instrument, two authors (A1, A5) compared the ten domains and the corresponding items of the WiX to the findings of a study into what constitutes a good life for adults in the Netherlands and identified five views on well-being, namely: Health and feeling well; Hearth and home; Freedom and autonomy; Social relations and purpose; and Individualism and independence (van der Deijl et al., 2023).<sup>3</sup> By inspecting the characterizing and distinguishing aspects for these five views, we determined that no important items that adult citizens in the Netherlands identified as important for their well-being were missing from the draft instrument. Therefore, the original selection of ten domains and their corresponding items were retained for further development of a draft version of the WiX. In the ninth step, two authors (A1, A5) formulated draft descriptions for the ten items of the WiX, based on the draft descriptions of the domains (see Table S2 in online Supplementary Information 2, column 7). In the tenth step, the same two authors drafted item levels for the ten items of the WiX, taking the number and wording of levels of available instruments -collected in step 5- as starting point. Accordingly, each item is accompanied by a description conveying its meaning to respondents, and five response levels measuring the level of satisfaction of the respondent on that well-being domain, distinguishing between "I'm very satisfied"; "I'm satisfied"; "I'm reasonably satisfied"; "I'm dissatisfied"; and "I'm very dissatisfied" (on the specific domain) (see Table S2 in online Supplementary Information 2, column 8).

In the eleventh step, two other authors (A3, A4) independently reviewed the approach, decisions, and results of steps eight to ten and their feedback was discussed and implemented in a joint meeting with the whole research team. After several iterations of changes to the wording of the draft domain names, descriptions, and levels of the WiX, with particular focus on consistency and comprehensibility

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The approach of this exploratory study could be seen as an example of the public deliberation proposed by Sen for determining the set of functionings that people have reason to value (in the capability approach) and the findings of this study could be seen as representing what Haybron and Tiberius called personal well-being values.

of formulations, consensus was achieved about a final draft version of the instrument. These adjustments were incorporated into Table S2 in online Supplementary Information 2 (see columns 6 to 8). Lastly, the recall period in the instruction for completion was set to "today" and the order in which the items in the draft version of the WiX were presented, was adapted to minimize confounding of meaning between the items (see Table S2 in online Supplementary Information 2, column 9).

The twelfth and final step in developing a draft version of the WiX was a forward–backward translation of the WiX from English into Dutch, which was commissioned to a certified translation company. The differences between the original and back-translated English versions of the WiX were discussed and resolved in a meeting with the full research team, in coordination with the translator. This resulted in final draft versions of the new instrument in English and Dutch to be used in the content validation study discussed next.

### **Content Validity**

To assess the content validity of the WiX, we followed the COSMIN methodology (Mokkink et al., 2010), with content validity defined as the degree to which the content of the new instrument adequately reflects the construct that we intend to measure, well-being. Following this definition, content validity consists of three aspects: (1) relevance, meaning that all items of the instrument should be relevant for the construct of interest; (2) comprehensiveness, meaning that no important aspects of the construct should be missing; and (3) comprehensibility, meaning that all items of the instrument should be understood as intended. For this purpose, a qualitative and a quantitative assessment of the content validity of the WiX was conducted.

#### Qualitative Assessment of Content Validity

To assess the content validity of the WiX, two authors (A1, A2) conducted interviews with experts and members of the general population. The interviews were conducted online and via telephone because, at the time, COVID-19 measures did not allow for in-person interviews. As suggested by Beatty & Willis (Beatty & Willis, 2007), the interviews were conducted in several rounds until saturation was reached. After each round, interview answers were analysed and discussed by three members of the research team (A1, A2, A5), and, if needed, the instrument was adapted accordingly.

Eight experts in the field of health care, health technology assessment, wellbeing, and outcome measurement were interviewed. These experts worked in the Netherlands at governmental agencies, (semi-)academic institutions or in the healthcare sector. All interviews were conducted online in November and December 2020 by an experienced researcher (A1), following a semi-structured interview protocol (see Appendix 2). Experts received the draft version of the WiX beforehand. During the interview, they were asked general questions about well-being measurement and specific questions regarding the relevance, comprehensiveness, and comprehensibility of the WiX. Individuals from the general population were interviewed by two experienced researchers (A1, A2), in three rounds. Individuals aged 18 years or older and able to communicate in Dutch were eligible to participate. To achieve a diverse representation of the general population, respondents were purposely sampled based on age, sex, education level, migration background, health status and religion. For the first round of interviews, ten respondents were recruited via the snowball sampling method. For the second and third rounds of interviews, a sampling agency recruited the respondents based on specified sampling criteria. In round 1 (January 2021),

2 (March 2021) and 3 (April 2021) respectively 10, 6 and 4 interviews were conducted. Recruitment of respondents stopped once no new issues were brought forward during the interviews.

Cognitive interviewing techniques (Willis, 2005) were used to interview respondents in the general population sample. Specifically, a think-aloud strategy combined with verbal probing was applied to study the relevance, comprehensiveness and comprehensibility of the draft instrument, its items and their descriptions and levels. Having respondents verbalizing their thoughts gives insight into how respondents understand and answer questions, and aids in checking whether the questions and answer options are well understood. In practice, this strategy implied that respondents were asked to read and answer each item of the WiX out loud, after which they were asked, for example, to explain whether they found it hard to select an answer and, if so, for what reason. Finally, to check the relevance and comprehensiveness of the WiX, respondents were presented the entire instrument and asked whether any item of the WiX was redundant or any aspect that they considered important for their well-being was missing.

To ensure that the interviews were conducted in a consistent manner, a semistructured interview protocol was prepared by the two interviewers (A1, A2) and discussed with the rest of the research team before commencing the interviews. After the first two interviews, the interview protocol was evaluated. As no significant changes were required, these two interviews were included in the analysis. Respondents received a small financial compensation for their time.

All interviews were recorded and transcribed verbatim and analysed by the two researchers who conducted the interviews. An analysis scheme corresponding to the interview guides was developed to identify issues regarding the items, descriptions and response levels, the recall period, and the relevance, comprehensiveness, and comprehensibility of the instrument. After each round (i.e., one round of interviews for the experts, three rounds of interviews for the general population), interviews were deductively analysed using the analysis scheme, and retrieved issues were condensed into discussion points. These points were then discussed with the whole research team and, if needed, adjustments were made to the instrument.

### Quantitative Assessment of Content Validity

After completion of the interviews, the draft version of the WiX was used for a quantitative content validation in a larger sample of the general population. A sampling agency recruited 501 respondents, quota-sampled to be representative for the

adult general population of the Netherlands based on age, sex, education level and country region.

In the online survey, respondents first completed the Cantril ladder (Cantril, 1965), which asks them to rate their life on a scale from 1 ("the worst possible life for you") to 10 ("the best possible life for you"). Next, they were asked an open question: "Could you explain in a couple words what well-being means to you?", followed by questions about their age, sex, level of education, country region, migration background and self-reported health. After these questions, they were asked to complete the WiX. Then, they were consecutively shown each item of the WiX with its description and their score on the item (based on their answers when completing the WiX in the previous part of the survey) and asked how important this item was for their well-being (on a five-point scale ranging from "very important" to "very unimportant"), and to explain this in an open text field. After rating all items according to importance, respondents were shown all items of the WiX and asked to indicate whether any items they considered important to their well-being were missing from this list. If they answered "yes", they could insert up to three items in an open text field; for each item inserted, they were asked to indicate how important this item was for their well-being (on a five-point scale ranging from "very important" to "very unimportant"). Finally, respondents were shown one randomly selected item of the WiX with its description and their score on the item (from the question before). For this WiX item, respondents were asked how clear the description of this item was to them (on a five-point scale ranging from "very clear" to "very unclear"), followed by an open question for suggestions to improve the clarity of the description. In addition, respondents received three questions about the response levels of the item: (1) how clear the response levels were to them (on a five-point scale ranging from "very clear" to "very unclear"); (2) how difficult it was to select the response option that was most applicable to them (on a five-point scale ranging from "very easy" to "very difficult"); and, (3) whether they could as well have chosen one response category higher or lower referring to being more or less satisfied with this item (on a five-point scale ranging from "completely agree" to "completely disagree"). In the randomization procedure for the question above, four items of the WiX (i.e., 'Personal and social safety', 'Self-worth', 'Independence' & 'Social relations') were shown twice as often as the other items, because these items most frequently raised issues in terms of comprehensibility during the interviews with members of the general population (as discussed later).

Frequencies were calculated for the responses to the closed questions regarding the relevance, comprehensiveness, and comprehensibility of the items of the WiX and their descriptions and response levels. Responses to the open question about what well-being meant to respondents were open coded into aspects of well-being (e.g., "not having to worry about money" or "no worries about expenditures for shelter or food" into the aspect 'no financial worries') using inductive content analysis (Elo & Kyngäs, 2008). Next, these aspects were matched to the ten domains of well-being included in the WiX (e.g., aspects like 'financial stability' and 'no financial worries' to the domain 'Financial situation') or a category 'other'. A similar approach was used for coding the responses to the other open questions. Incomplete or unclear answers and mentions of "don't know" were coded as missing. Because all questions were mandatory, there were no missing values. Respondents with very short answers to any of the open questions were seen as potential speeders, but after excluding these respondents from the data as a robustness check, it was concluded that their answers did not affect the results presented here.

### **Translation of the WiX**

The interviews and surveys were administered using consecutive draft versions of the WiX in Dutch. The final version of the instrument after content validation was translated into English. The forward–backward translation was commissioned to a certified translation company. The differences between the original and back-translated Dutch versions of the instrument were discussed and resolved by the research team. The final English and Dutch versions of the WiX are included in Appendix 3 and 4.

### Ethics

The study protocol was approved by the Research Ethics Review Committee of the Erasmus School of Health Policy & Management (case number 21–001). Participation in the study was voluntary and could be terminated at any point. All respondents provided informed consent for participation in the study and use of their responses for academic research and publication purposes.

### Results

#### Qualitative Assessment of Content Validity

Below we describe the most important revisions to the initial draft version of the WiX following the consecutive rounds of interviews with experts and members of the general population. A detailed overview of the frequency of reporting issues regarding the relevance, comprehensibility, and comprehensiveness of the WiX, per interview round, is included in Appendix Table 4.

The interviews with the experts resulted in two important changes to the instrument. First, the third (or middle) response option was changed from "I'm reasonably satisfied" to "I'm satisfied nor dissatisfied", to represent the true middle. In addition, the items, descriptions, and levels of the instrument were checked by a language specialist to meet comprehensibility at language level B1 (intermediate), and the instrument was revised accordingly. Table S3a (in online Supplementary Information 3) lists the issues identified, quotes from the interviews with experts, and the corresponding changes that were made to the draft version of the instrument.

Table 1 presents an overview of the main characteristics of the members of the general population who participated in the qualitative and quantitative validation study.

Table 1Descriptive statisticsof the members of the generalpopulation included in the	Variables	Qualitative interview sample $(N=20)$	Quantitative survey sample $(N=501)$
qualitative interview and	Sex (female)	50%	53%
quantitative survey samples	Age		
	18–25	10%	10%
	26-45	35%	31%
	46-65	25%	39%
	66–75	20%	16%
	>75	10%	4%
	Education		
	Low	25%	31%
	Middle	35%	45%
	High	40%	24%

The interviews with members of the public demonstrated that the instrument worked well; no issues were identified regarding the relevance and comprehensibility of the WiX, but some minor issues were reported regarding the comprehensiveness of the item descriptions, which resulted in the following changes. First, some respondents indicated to dislike the negative description of the items for physical and mental health. They mentioned that the descriptions were worded too negatively, which could potentially influence their answers. Therefore, the descriptions of the items for physical and mental health were changed from negatively worded statements (e.g., "Consider feelings of anxiety") to positively worded statements (e.g., "Consider feeling mentally well and not suffering from feelings of anxiety"). Second, some respondents reported difficulties answering the item about safety, following from difficulties understanding a specific part of the item description related to social safety: "...where everyone is treated with dignity and respect". However, they did acknowledge it to be an important aspect of safety. Throughout the interviews, alternative descriptions were explored and discussed with respondents, eventually resulting in describing social safety as: "...that others accept you and that you are not harassed because of who you are or what you think or believe". Tables S3.2 to S3.4 (in online Supplementary Information 3) list the issues identified per interview round with members of the public, quotes from the interviews, and the corresponding changes that were made to consecutive draft versions of the instrument.

### **Quantitative Assessment of Content Validity**

After completing the draft version of the WiX, 447 respondents (89%) provided a meaningful answer to the question about what well-being means to them. The most frequently mentioned aspects related to health (73%) and emotional well-being (46%), followed by financial situation (26%) and social contacts (19%) (see Table 2). Nearly all the mentioned aspects were clearly linked to the domains included in the WiX, supporting the relevance and comprehensiveness of the instrument, except for (1) the well-being of others and (2) personal development/having a certain goal or purpose in life, which both were mentioned by about 3% of the respondents. Few respondents

Domain	Mentioned aspects	Number (%) of respondents
Health	Feeling healthy; Mental or physical health; No worries or stress; Being energetic	327 (73%)
Emotional well-being	Feeling good/happy; Having a good life; Being satisfied; Enjoying life	204 (46%)
Financial situation	Financial means; Ability to pay for certain expenses; Not having financial worries; Being financially secure	115 (26%)
Social contacts	Contacts; Family; Love; Friends	86 (19%)
Independence	Doing what I like; Freedom	45 (10%)
Environment	Having a house; Facilities and services	21 (5%)
Activities	Having a (nice) job; Being involved in (daily) activities; Providing care	17 (4%)
Leisure	Leisure time; Work-life balance; Travelling	17 (4%)

**Table 2** Definition of well-being according to respondents (N=446)





Fig. 2 How important is this item for your well-being? (N=501)

(N=20; 4%) reported to miss an item in the instrument. The most mentioned aspects were 'personal development' (e.g., future outlook, skills) (1%), 'spirituality/religion' (1%) and 'society/political system' (e.g., politics, norms, climate) (1%).

The relevance of the items of the WiX was further investigated by asking respondents how important they considered the items of the WiX to be for their well-being. Most respondents indicated to find all items (very) important, with the highest proportion for 'Mental health' (94%) and the lowest proportion for 'Activities' (77%) (see Fig. 2). When asked why they considered an item (not) to be important for their well-being, respondents reported a broad range of arguments (see Table 3). The few respondents who indicated an item not to be important, mostly mentioned that the

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Item	Mentioned aspects regarding the (ir)relevance of an item
Mental health	Affects how you feel, how happy you are; Important to not be stressed; Has an impact on life in general; Good mental health is essential to do other things; Mental health affects your independence; It is related to physical health
Physical health	Health is important; Essential to do everything you want to do; Affects how you feel
Relationships	Contacts are a necessity in life; It feels good to be loved/in contact with others; Receiving support/Being in contact with others helps to deal with worries; (Enjoy the) presence of partner, family, children; Not being lonely
Living environment	Being in a nice place/having a nice house/green surroundings is important; Nice surroundings make you feel less stressed; It is important to feel at home; Related to safety and health
Safety	Not feeling safe will lead to stress/affect your mental health; Don't want to feel scared; Important to feel good; Want the freedom to do all the things you want to do; Important not to experience harassment/ traffic accidents/ criminal activities
Financial situation	Not having enough money gives stress/worries; Money needed to purchase items that are necessary to live (e.g., food); Gives independence, makes it possible to do what you like; Important to have enough; Money not needed to be happy, but useful to have some and live a comfortable life
Relaxation and leisure time	It is essential to relax and recharge; Leisure might lead to stress relieve; Important to do nice things, and decide how to spend your time yourself; Not having enough spare time might affect your mental/physical health
Activities	Important to stay active (especially at older age); Activities provide a purpose/goal; Will prevent you from getting bored; Related to health; Important to do nice things/have a nice job/do what you like
Independence	Important to not be dependent of others and be able to take care of yourself; Want to make my own decisions and do what I like; Gives a feeling of freedom
Self-worth	Affects how you feel; Important to be yourself and follow you own norms; Important to be satisfied with who you are and to be proud of yourself. Self.

 Table 3 Synthesis of provided answers to the question: Why do you consider this item (not) relevant for well-being?

Only aspects mentioned by at least 15 respondents are listed in the table

item did not apply to them. For example, respondents who indicated finding the item 'Activities' not important to their well-being explained they do not, or are unable to, being involved in activities like work or household chores.

worth is needed for meaningful relations with others; Affects mental health

Regarding comprehensibility, most respondents (83% or more, per item) found the item descriptions and response levels (very) clear (see Figs. 3 and 4). In addition, very few found it difficult to select the right answer (i.e., level) to the items (see Fig. 5). The high level of comprehensibility of the items and item descriptions was also evident from the written feedback provided by respondents, who reported only few suggestions for improvement. Based on these suggestions, we slightly revised the wording of the description of the 'Relaxation and leisure time' item. Table S3e (in online Supplementary Information 3) lists the changes that were made to the draft version of the instrument based on the quantitative validation.



Fig. 3 How clear is the description of this item to you? (70 to 74 respondents for items 'Relationships', 'Safety', 'Independence' and 'Self-worth', 35 to 37 respondents for the other items)



Fig. 4 How clear are the answer options for this item to you? (70 to 74 respondents for items 'Relationships', 'Safety', 'Independence' and 'Self-worth', 35 to 37 respondents for the other items)

On average, 35.3% (completely) disagreed that they could as well have chosen one answer level higher or lower, meaning higher or lower satisfaction on that item, which was lowest for the item 'Activities' (24.3%) and highest for the item 'Physical health' (45.7%), while 23.6% of respondents (completely) agreed, which was lowest for the item 'Safety' (13.7%) and highest for the item 'Activities' (32.4%).

Finally, based on differences between the Dutch language version of the instrument after the content validation and the forward–backward translation into English, we slightly revised the wording of the description of the item 'Living environment' in the Dutch language version (see Table S3f in online Supplementary Information 3).



Fig. 5 How difficult was it to select the right answer to this item? (70 to 74 respondents for items 'Relationships', 'Safety', 'Independence' and 'Self-worth', 35 to 37 respondents for the other items)

### Discussion

When interventions have effects beyond health, the evaluative space of common HRQoL instruments may be considered too limited to capture all the benefits relevant to individuals. In such cases, instruments measuring well-being comprehensively are required. While a few well-being instruments exist that could be used in the context of economic evaluations, all seem to have some limitations. Therefore, in this paper a new instrument for the adult general population was introduced that aims to capture overall (or general) quality-of-life in terms of people's subjective well-being by measuring how satisfied people are in ten important domains of well-being: the 10-item Well-being instrument (WiX). This paper presented its development and content validation.

The development of the WiX was based on a theoretical framework synthesizing leading theories of well-being and an exploratory study into what adults in the Netherlands consider important for a good life (van der Deijl et al., 2023) as well as a scoping review of existing instruments with a similar aim. The final version of the instrument covers ten domains of well-being and measures satisfaction in these domains. The content validity of the WiX was investigated following the COSMIN methodology (Mokkink et al., 2010), addressing its relevance, comprehensiveness, and comprehensibility in a qualitative and a quantitative validation study. The results of these studies confirmed that the WiX covers all relevant well-being domains, does not include irrelevant domains, and is considered clear and feasible by the target population. These results are encouraging and highlight that the WiX is a promising instrument to measure well-being in the adult general population.

Considering the development process of the WiX described in this paper, the results for its content validity support that this well-being instrument is comprehensive and truly generic, meaning that it is not confined to a specific subgroup in the adult population (e.g., care users) or to a subset of the relevant well-being domains.

These strengths of the WiX are especially important when interventions in the healthcare sector are expected to have broad effects on peoples' well-being and, in addition, make the instrument more relevant for use in the evaluation of interventions across sectors and settings, as well as outside the healthcare sector.

By measuring the satisfaction of respondents in ten distinct domains of well-being, the informational density of the WiX is high. This makes it possible to offer an indication of overall well-being, but also helps to identify the domains in which satisfaction may not be optimal and, hence, understand the sources of reduced well-being (or deprivation). In addition, this information can be directly relevant for the development and implementation of policy interventions. While the ten items required to make the WiX comprehensive make it longer than most other existing instruments, the results of this study indicate that the WiX seems to be clear and concise, and, therefore, still feasible to be used for self-completion in the context of evaluation studies.

A few issues regarding the instrument and its content validity deserve further discussion here. First, in both the development and content validity phases some elements of well-being were encountered that may be important for well-being but, after deliberation and content validation, were not included in the final instrument. Two examples of this are political participation and spirituality/religion. These aspects are mentioned in the literature (van der Deijl et al., 2023) and were reported by (very small proportions of) respondents in the content validation study, but at this time we found insufficient evidence to support their inclusion in the final instrument as additional domains. Future research should explore the role of these aspects for well-being further.

Secondly, we developed the WiX and conducted the content validity study in the Netherlands. While the instrument was based on broad, international theories of well-being and available well-being instruments from the international literature, and we tried to represent the multi-cultural environment in the Netherlands in the content validation phase, future studies need to confirm the (content) validity of the instrument in other countries. Binder (Binder, 2014) stated that it is doubtful that a single list of domains is valid "once and for all" but argued that the selection of most important domains -a "skeleton list"- would probably be similar across cultures and time. Nonetheless, further validation of the WiX is recommended especially in countries where the economic, political and cultural environments differ considerably from the Netherlands, both regarding the current ten domains and potential complementary domains. In addition, the content validation of the WiX presented here took place during the COVID-19 pandemic. While it is difficult to say whether and how this may have influenced the results, we expect that respondents may have been more aware of well-being (issues) in general as a result of the pandemic and the subsequent governmental measures, and that it may have impacted the relative importance attached to certain well-being domains (like health or social activities).

Thirdly, despite the theory-driven, systematic development process and the extensive content validation, several additional development steps are needed before the WiX can be recommended for use in evaluation studies. These steps include further validation of the instrument, including its feasibility, reliability, construct validity and sensitivity/responsiveness, ideally in different contexts, populations and countries. Moreover, for use in economic evaluation studies, preference-based utility weights need to be determined, representing the relative importance of the different domains of well-being and levels of satisfaction in those domains for overall well-being. Such utility weights can then be used to compute well-being scores for the approximately 10 million ( $=5^{10}$ ) different well-being states described by the WiX.

Concluding, the thorough development and content validation phases reported in this paper have resulted in a new instrument to measure well-being in terms of satisfaction on ten important domains of life in the adult general population: the 10-item Well-being instrument (WiX). The results for the relevance, comprehensiveness and comprehensibility of the WiX are encouraging, but further validation and valuation steps are necessary before the WiX can be effectively employed in (economic) evaluation studies. Conditional on the results of these steps, the WiX seems to be a promising complement to existing measures of well-being, with an alternative conceptual approach. Multi-instrument comparison studies are recommended to further inform analysts and decision makers on the relative performance of instruments in assessing the full impact and value for money of interventions in health and social care (and beyond) with impacts broader than only health.

## Appendix 1. Overview of Changes Intermediate Review (Step 7)

The following changes were made to the domains (or items) of instruments categorized as 'other' in step four (see bottom row Table S1 in online Supplementary Information 1):

- WALY: the item 'Self-sufficiency' of the domain 'Physical health' was moved to the draft domain 'Independence' of the new instrument because self-sufficiency was considered as one of the requirements for being independent.
- E-QALY: the item 'Self-care' of the domain 'Activity' was discarded because it was considered to be a factor that directly influences well-being and is already being addressed by other domains included in the new instrument.
- QWB-SA: the domain 'Symptom/problem complexes' was discarded since it was considered too detailed and already covered under the draft domain description of 'Physical health'.
- PWI: the domain 'Future security' was discarded since this concept was considered already covered under draft domain 'Safety' of the new instrument.
- ONS-4: the domain 'Life satisfaction' was moved to draft domain 'Achievements' of the new instrument since it was considered to fit with the concept of feeling accomplished in life.
- WHOQOL: the item 'Activities of daily living' of the domain 'Level of independence' was moved to draft domain 'Activities' since it was mainly focused on a persons' use of his or her energy for work. The item 'Health and social care: accessibility and quality' from the domain 'Environment' moved to draft domain 'Environment' of the new instrument since the main focus was if people felt that health and social care were in the near vicinity.
- SPF-IL: the domain 'Stimulation' was moved to draft domain 'Activities' since it mainly included questions concerning activities. The domain 'Perspective on the

future' was discarded since the research team believed all concepts in this domain were already covered within the rest of the domains.

Overview of changes to the initial domain names (See Table S2 in online Supplementary Information, columns 1, 4, 6):

- The domain 'Safety' was renamed into 'Personal and social safety' to show more specifically in the domain name what is included in the domain and item.
- The domain 'Recreation and leisure' was renamed into 'Recreation and leisure time'.
- The domain 'Mental well-being' was renamed into 'Mental health' to align the wording of the domain name with the 'Physical health' domain and to distinguish the domain more clearly from overall well-being, which is intended to be captured by the full version (i.e., all domains together) of the new developed instrument.
- The domain 'Mental development' was renamed into 'Independence' since the research team believed this to define the description of the domain better, and elements concerning mental issues were moved to the domain 'Mental health'.
- The domain 'Environmental conditions' was renamed into 'Environment' and ultimately was named 'Living environment' to better fit the description of the domain.
- The domain 'Material well-being' was renamed into 'Making ends meet' and ultimately was named 'Financial situation'.
- The domain 'Labour conditions' was renamed into 'Activities' to represent a broader range of activities besides (paid) work, such as volunteering and informal caregiving, that may also contribute to their well-being.
- The domain 'Achievements' was renamed into 'Self-worth' to better fit the domain description as achievements seems to be mainly focusing on attaining certain goals.

## Appendix 2. Interview Protocol – Experts & General Public

## Interview Protocol Experts

<Experts received the first draft version of the instrument beforehand>

## Introduction

Introduction + informed consent

## Part I (General)

- What is your opinion on the measurement of well-being in health care?
- Do you think it is important to measure well-being in health care?
- Do you think this new instrument is suitable for this? And is it a good addition to existing instruments?

### Relevance

• Are all domains, descriptions, and levels in the WiX relevant to the measurement of general well-being within the health and well-being sectors?

## Comprehensiveness

- Are there life aspects that are important for measuring well-being within the sectors of care and well-being, that have not yet been named? Phrased differently, are any domains missing? Would you suggest other names for some of the domains? (Independence vs. self-reliance)
- Are the descriptions complete? Do the descriptions adequately cover the scope of the domain? Are things missing?
- Are the levels complete? Is the way of measurement relevant? Are the levels sufficiently different? Is there enough differentiation between the levels?

## Comprehensibility

• Are all terms and phrases understandable (to an adult population)?

## Part II Advice on Instrument Validation

• Discuss experts' experience and advice regarding instrument validation

### Part III

• Check any remaining important stakeholders, or important case studies.

### Closure

- Summarize most important comments
- Check for additional remarks/comments

### **Interview Protocol General Public**

### Introduction

Introduction + Informed Consent

The Erasmus University is conducting research on a new questionnaire to measure well-being (or happiness, satisfaction with life) among the Dutch people aged 18 years

or older. We are curious to know whether these questions are clear and whether we have included everything in the questionnaire that is important for your well-being.

We are interested in your opinion. There are no right or wrong answers.

## Part I (General)

- Can you describe in a few words what well-being means to you?
- What do you personally consider important for your well-being?

### Part II (The instrument: is it Clear, Recognizable, Complete, and Understandable?)

We are now going to discuss the questionnaire together. The questionnaire has 10 questions. We will read each question one by one. Would you like to explain out loud for each question what you think when reading and completing the question? We would like to know your opinion, there are no wrong answers.

\*Ask the respondent to answer every question of the instrument out loud. Ask probing questions after answering every item to check whether the questions are relevant, complete, and understandable. For example, ask: Was the description clear or understandable? Was it difficult to answer the question? What would need to happen to give a higher/worse score for a certain item?

\*Check specifically: The questionnaire begins with an introduction. Based on that, is it clear what is expected of you?

< Show entire instrument >

- Are there things (in life) that are important to your well-being that have not yet been named? Are there elements missing in the questionnaire?
- Are there elements currently in the questionnaire that are not so important to you/ you do not feel are necessary?
- Have there been any major events in your life in the past year that affect your well-being currently?
- If you wish, can you describe these major events and the effect they have on your well-being currently? Can you indicate the questions on which this/these event(s) had an effect?

### Part III (demographic questions)

Age, education, religion, migration background and health.

## Part IV (the future)

Check for further comments/remarks and whether the respondent wants to stay informed regarding future development and achievements of the instrument.

## Appendix 3. The 10-Item Well-being Instrument (WiX) – English Version

For each section, select the description that applies to you best today.

#### Mental health

Consider feeling mentally well and not suffering from feelings of anxiety, stress, sadness, and not having worries or a lack of control.

- I'm very satisfied with my mental health
- □ I'm satisfied with my mental health
- I'm not satisfied but also not dissatisfied with my mental health
- □ I'm dissatisfied with my mental health
- □ I'm very dissatisfied with my mental health

#### Physical health

Consider feeling physically well and not suffering from physical limitations, low energy, problems with vision, hearing, speech, sleep or movement, pain, and other physical complaints.

- I'm very satisfied with my physical health
- □ I'm satisfied with my physical health
- □ I'm not satisfied but also not dissatisfied with my physical health
- □ I'm dissatisfied with my physical health
- □ I'm very dissatisfied with my physical health

#### Relationships

Consider the relationships with your family, partner, friends, colleagues, and other people who are important to you. This concerns the number and quality of your relationships, including feeling love and friendship and getting practical or emotional support when you need it.

- □ I'm very satisfied with my relationships
- □ I'm satisfied with my relationships
- □ I'm not satisfied but also not dissatisfied with my relationships
- □ I'm dissatisfied with my relationships
- □ I'm very dissatisfied with my relationships

#### Living environment

Consider the house and the neighbourhood you live in, the availability of open and green areas, and the facilities and services that you need.

- □ I'm very satisfied with my living environment
- $\hfill\square$   $\hfill$  I'm satisfied with my living environment
- I'm not satisfied but also not dissatisfied with my living environment
- □ I'm dissatisfied with my living environment
- □ I'm very dissatisfied with my living environment

#### Safety

Consider feeling safe in your daily life, that others accept you and that you are not harassed because of who you are or what you think or believe, and that there is little risk of something terrible happening to you at home, on the streets or online.

- I'm very satisfied with my safety
- I'm satisfied with my safety
- I'm not satisfied but also not dissatisfied with my safety
- I'm dissatisfied with my safety
- I'm very dissatisfied with my safety

#### **Financial situation**

Consider having enough money for your expenses for things like housing, insurance, clothing, and food, occasionally something extra and not having any worries about money.

- □ I'm very satisfied with my financial situation
- □ I'm satisfied with my financial situation
- □ I'm not satisfied but also not dissatisfied with my financial situation
- $\hfill\square$   $\hfill$  I'm dissatisfied with my financial situation
- □ I'm very dissatisfied with my financial situation

#### **Relaxation and leisure time**

Consider taking a break, doing something fun, hobbies, sports and going on holiday. This concerns the amount and quality of your relaxation and leisure time.

- □ I'm very satisfied with my relaxation and leisure time
- □ I'm satisfied with my relaxation and leisure time
- □ I'm not satisfied but also not dissatisfied with my relaxation and leisure time
- □ I'm dissatisfied with my relaxation and leisure time
- I'm very dissatisfied with my relaxation and leisure time

#### Activities

Consider activities like studying, paid work, volunteer work, household chores and providing care or support to family, friends, or acquaintances. This concerns the amount and quality of your activities.

- I'm very satisfied with my activities
- I'm satisfied with my activities
- □ I'm not satisfied but also not dissatisfied with my activities
- □ I'm dissatisfied with my activities
- □ I'm very dissatisfied with my activities

#### Independence

Consider feeling autonomous and being able to find, understand and use information, and making your own choices and carrying them out in daily life.

- □ I'm very satisfied with my level of independence
- □ I'm satisfied with my level of independence
- □ I'm not satisfied but also not dissatisfied with my level of independence
- $\hfill\square$   $\hfill$  I'm dissatisfied with my level of independence
- □ I'm very dissatisfied with my level of independence

#### Self-worth

Consider living according to your own values and beliefs, and being satisfied with who you are and what you do.

- □ I'm very satisfied with my self-worth
- I'm satisfied with my self-worth
- I'm not satisfied but also not dissatisfied with my self-worth
- □ I'm dissatisfied with my self-worth
- □ I'm very dissatisfied with my self-worth

## Appendix 4. The 10-Item Well-being Instrument (WiX) – Dutch Version

Kies bij ieder onderdeel de beschrijving die vandaag het best bij u past.

#### Mentale gezondheid

Denk hierbij aan u psychisch goed voelen en geen last hebben van gevoelens van angst, stress, verdriet, en geen zorgen hebben of gebrek aan controle.

- □ Ik ben zeer tevreden over mijn mentale gezondheid
- □ Ik ben tevreden over mijn mentale gezondheid
- □ Ik ben niet tevreden maar ook niet ontevreden over mijn mentale gezondheid
- □ Ik ben ontevreden over mijn mentale gezondheid
- □ Ik ben zeer ontevreden over mijn mentale gezondheid

#### Lichamelijke gezondheid

Denk hierbij aan u fysiek goed voelen en geen last hebben van lichamelijke beperkingen, weinig energie, problemen met zien, horen, spreken, slapen of bewegen, pijn en andere lichamelijke klachten.

- □ Ik ben zeer tevreden over mijn lichamelijke gezondheid
- □ Ik ben tevreden over mijn lichamelijke gezondheid
- □ Ik ben niet tevreden maar ook niet ontevreden over mijn lichamelijke gezondheid
- Ik ben ontevreden over mijn lichamelijke gezondheid
- □ Ik ben zeer ontevreden over mijn lichamelijke gezondheid

#### Relaties

Denk hierbij aan de relaties met uw familie, partner, vrienden, collega's en andere mensen die belangrijk voor u zijn. Hierbij gaat het om het aantal en de kwaliteit van uw relaties, waaronder liefde en vriendschap voelen en praktische of emotionele steun krijgen wanneer u die nodig heeft.

- □ Ik ben zeer tevreden over mijn relaties
- □ Ik ben tevreden over mijn relaties
- □ Ik ben niet tevreden maar ook niet ontevreden over mijn relaties
- Ik ben ontevreden over mijn relaties
- Ik ben zeer ontevreden over mijn relaties

#### Leefomgeving

Denk hierbij aan het huis en de buurt waarin u woont, de beschikbaarheid van open en groene ruimten,

en van voorzieningen en diensten die u nodig heeft.

- $\hfill\square$  Ik ben zeer tevreden over mijn leefomgeving
- □ Ik ben tevreden over mijn leefomgeving
- □ Ik ben niet tevreden maar ook niet ontevreden over mijn leefomgeving
- □ Ik ben ontevreden over mijn leefomgeving
- □ Ik ben zeer ontevreden over mijn leefomgeving

#### Veiligheid

Denk hierbij aan u veilig voelen in het dagelijks leven, dat anderen u accepteren en u niet wordt lastiggevallen om wie u bent of wat u denkt of gelooft, en dat er weinig kans is dat er iets ergs met u gebeurt in huis, op straat of online.

- □ Ik ben zeer tevreden over mijn veiligheid
- □ Ik ben tevreden over mijn veiligheid
- □ Ik ben niet tevreden maar ook niet ontevreden over mijn veiligheid
- □ Ik ben ontevreden over mijn veiligheid
- □ Ik ben zeer ontevreden over mijn veiligheid

#### Financiële situatie

Denk hierbij aan voldoende geld hebben voor uw uitgaven aan zaken zoals wonen, verzekeren, kleding en voeding, af en toe iets extra's en geen geldzorgen hebben.

- □ Ik ben zeer tevreden over mijn financiële situatie
- □ Ik ben tevreden over mijn financiële situatie
- □ Ik ben niet tevreden maar ook niet ontevreden over mijn financiële situatie
- □ Ik ben ontevreden over mijn financiële situatie
- □ Ik ben zeer ontevreden over mijn financiële situatie

#### Ontspanning en vrije tijd

Denk hierbij aan even rust nemen, iets leuks doen, hobby's, sporten en op vakantie gaan. Hierbij gaat het om de hoeveelheid en de kwaliteit van uw ontspanning en vrije tijd.

- □ Ik ben zeer tevreden over mijn ontspanning en vrije tijd
- □ Ik ben tevreden over mijn ontspanning en vrije tijd
- □ Ik ben niet tevreden maar ook niet ontevreden over mijn ontspanning en vrije tijd
- □ Ik ben ontevreden over mijn ontspanning en vrije tijd
- Ik ben zeer ontevreden over mijn ontspanning en vrije tijd

### Activiteiten

Denk hierbij aan activiteiten zoals studie, betaald werk, vrijwilligerswerk, huishoudelijke taken en het geven van zorg of steun aan familie, vrienden of bekenden. Hierbij gaat het om de hoeveelheid en de kwaliteit van uw activiteiten.

- □ Ik ben zeer tevreden over mijn activiteiten
- □ Ik ben tevreden over mijn activiteiten
- □ Ik ben niet tevreden maar ook niet ontevreden over mijn activiteiten
- □ Ik ben ontevreden over mijn activiteiten
- □ Ik ben zeer ontevreden over mijn activiteiten

#### Onafhankelijkheid

Denk hierbij aan u zelfstandig voelen, informatie kunnen vinden, begrijpen en gebruiken, en uw eigen keuzes kunnen maken en uitvoeren in het dagelijks leven.

- □ Ik ben zeer tevreden over mijn mate van onafhankelijkheid
- □ Ik ben tevreden over mijn mate van onafhankelijkheid
- □ Ik ben niet tevreden maar ook niet ontevreden over mijn mate van onafhankelijkheid
- □ Ik ben ontevreden over mijn mate van onafhankelijkheid
- □ Ik ben zeer ontevreden over mijn mate van onafhankelijkheid

#### Eigenwaarde

Denk hierbij aan leven volgens uw eigen waarden en opvattingen, en tevreden zijn met wie u bent en wat u doet.

- □ Ik ben zeer tevreden over mijn eigenwaarde
- □ Ik ben tevreden over mijn eigenwaarde
- □ Ik ben niet tevreden maar ook niet ontevreden over mijn eigenwaarde
- □ Ik ben ontevreden over mijn eigenwaarde
- □ Ik ben zeer ontevreden over mijn eigenwaarde

Table 4         Overview of issues mentioned regarding relevant	ce, comprehensibility, and comp	orehensiveness	, per interview round		
		Experts (N=8)	General population round 1 ( $N$ = 10)	General population round 2 ( $N = 6$ )	General popula- tion round $3$ $(N=4)$
Issues related to instructions				1	1
Issues related to response options		4			
Issues related to recall period		7		ı	ı
Issues related to comprehensibility entire instrument		5			ı
Issues related to comprehensiveness entire instrument		ю	2	3	
1. Mental health	Comprehension issue	3	4		ı
	Comprehensiveness issue	ı	2		
	Relevance issue	ı			
2. Physical health	Comprehension issue	ı	3		
	Comprehensiveness issue	1	1		
	Relevance issue				
3. Relationships	Comprehension issue				
	Comprehensiveness issue	1	1	4	ı
	Relevance issue		ı		ı
4. Living environment	Comprehension issue	1			
	Comprehensiveness issue		2		ı
	Relevance issue		ı		ı
5. Safety	Comprehension issue		9	1	2
	Comprehensiveness issue	1	1	1	ı
	Relevance issue		·	ı	ı

Appendix 5

Table 4 (continued)					
		Experts $(N=8)$	General population round 1 ( $N$ = 10)	General population round 2 ( $N = 6$ )	General popula- tion round 3 $(N=4)$
6. Financial situation	Comprehension issue		1	. 1	1
	Comprehensiveness issue	·	1	2	2
	Relevance issue	ı			ı
7. Relaxation & leisure time	Comprehension issue	1	ı	ı	I
	Comprehensiveness issue		1	ı	ı
	Relevance issue	,			ı
8. Activities	Comprehension issue	ı	4	ı	
	Comprehensiveness issue	2		ı	
	Relevance issue	ı			
9. Independence	Comprehension issue	1			
	Comprehensiveness issue	ı	9	ı	
	Relevance issue	ı			
10. Self-worth	Comprehension issue			2	
	Comprehensiveness issue		1	ı	
	Relevance issue		ı	ı	
Please note that comprehension issues do not necessarily or researchers observed that respondents found it difficult	mean that respondents answer to answer to this question. Fina	ed to these que I domain name	stions wrongly, in most es are used	cases it means that resp	ondents mentioned,

Development and Content Validation of the 10-item Well-being...

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**Data Availability** The data that support the findings of this study are available on request. Restrictions apply to the availability of these data, which were used under license for this study. Interested researchers may request access to the data by contacting D.C. Voormolen / voormolen@eshpm.eur.nl.

#### Declarations

**Competing Interests** The authors have no competing interests to declare that are relevant to the content of this article.

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