

# The patient-reported outcome of age-related cataract using Catquest-8SF questionnaire

Sheng-Xia Wang<sup>1,2\*</sup>, Xin Liu<sup>3\*</sup>, Yun-Hong Du<sup>2</sup>, Wen-Jing Liu<sup>2</sup>, Ping Liu<sup>2</sup>, Ying-Chao Li<sup>2</sup>, Xin-Yi Wu<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>Department of Ophthalmology, Qilu Hospital of Shandong University, Jinan 250012, Shandong Province, China

<sup>2</sup>Department of Ophthalmology, The Central Hospital of Tai'an, Tai'an 271000, Shandong Province, China

<sup>3</sup>Department of Psychology, TaiShan Medical College, Tai'an 271000, Shandong Province, China

**Co-first authors:** Sheng-Xia Wang and Xin Liu

**Correspondence to:** Xin - Yi Wu. Department of Ophthalmology, Qilu Hospital of Shandong University, Jinan 250012, Shandong Province, China. xywu8868@163.com

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## Catquest-8SF 量表分析年龄相关性白内障患者的效果

王圣霞,刘欣,杜允宏,刘文静,刘萍,李颖超,吴欣怡

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(作者单位:<sup>1</sup>250012 中国山东大学齐鲁医院眼科;<sup>2</sup>271000 中国山东省泰安市中心医院眼科;<sup>3</sup>271000 中国山东省泰山医学院心理学系)

\*:王圣霞和刘欣对本文贡献一致.

**作者简介:**王圣霞,山东大学在职博士,副主任医师,教学秘书,研究方向:白内障;刘欣,山东大学硕士研究生,讲师,研究方向:心理学.

**通讯作者:**吴欣怡,主任医师,博士生导师,教学主任,研究方向:白内障,角膜病. xywu8868@163.com

## 摘要

**目的:**应用 Catquest-8SF 量表研究 PHACO+SIOL 植入术患者主观报告的效果,评估 Catquest-8SF 量表在中国北方白内障人群的适用性及其对白内障手术的敏感性。

**方法:**前瞻性临床病例随访研究。泰安市中心医院白内障

患者术前和术后 3mo 完成面对面的 Catquest-8SF 量表填写。

**结果:**术前共 120 例白内障患者完成了 Catquest-8SF 量表。术前 Catquest-8SF 量表得分与术前双眼加权 logMAR 视力及年龄呈显著负相关 ( $P < 0.05$ ),与文化程度呈正相关 ( $P < 0.001$ ),无全身合并症的患者量表得分高于有全身合并症的患者 ( $P < 0.05$ )。102 名 (85%) 患者完成术后 3mo 量表,单眼手术组和双眼手术组比较,术后视力均显著提高 ( $t = 10.404, P < 0.001$ ),术后量表得分均明显提高 ( $P < 0.001$ )。两组在量表得分提高值上差异无统计学意义。92.2% 的患者对手术效果满意。满意度与量表得分的提高值显著相关 ( $P < 0.05$ )。

**结论:**中文版 Catquest-8SF 量表在我国北方 ARC 人群中适用性好,简短高效,可以作为白内障常规临床评估的一部分。

**关键词:**年龄相关性白内障;超声乳化术;视功能;Catquest-8SF 量表;满意度

## Abstract

• **AIM:** To assess the patient-reported outcome of phacoemulsification with posterior chamber single focus foldable intraocular lens (SIOL) using the Chinese version of Catquest-8SF questionnaire. We would mainly evaluate the applicability of Catquest-8SF scale in northern Chinese and evaluate its sensitivity to cataract surgery.

• **METHODS:** Prospective clinical case follow-up study. The patients were recruited from The Central Hospital of Tai'an and completed the Catquest-8SF questionnaire by face-to-face interviews before and 3mo after surgery at the hospital.

• **RESULTS:** A total of 120 cataract patients completed the Catquest-8SF at baseline. The preoperative score of the Catquest-8SF-CN had a significant negative correlation with preoperative binocular mean weighted logMAR visual acuity and age ( $P < 0.05$ ), while a significant positive correlation with education level ( $P < 0.001$ ). The patients without systemic comorbidities got higher score than those who with ( $P < 0.05$ ). Three months after surgery, 102 (85%) patients came for follow-up and completed the questionnaire. Significant improvement of visual acuity was observed in both binocular and monocular surgery groups ( $t = 10.404, P < 0.001$ ). There

was higher improvement in binocular weighted logMAR visual acuity of binocular surgery group than in monocular surgery group ( $P < 0.001$ ). The postoperative score were significantly higher in both groups than before ( $P < 0.001$ ). There was a significant improvement in the total score after cataract surgery. Ninety-four patients (92.2%) were very satisfied or satisfied with the operation. The degree of satisfaction was significantly correlated with the improvement score of the scale and it was also correlated with their expectation of the surgery.

• **CONCLUSION:** The Chinese version of Catquest-8SF questionnaire is suitable for the age-related cataract population in northern China. It is highly responsive to cataract surgery and brief, so it may have the potential to become part of a routine clinical assessment for cataract surgery in China.

• **KEYWORDS:** age-related cataract; phacoemulsification; visual function; Catquest-8SF; satisfaction

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## INTRODUCTION

Cataract is the leading cause of blindness in the world, which account for 46% of global 40 to 45 million blind people. There are over 5 million cataract patients in China, among which nearly 2 million patients are in urgent need of surgical treatment. Additionally, there are about 0.4-1.2 million new cataract patients each year<sup>[1]</sup>. With the beginning of "vision 2020" and the popularization of modern cataract surgery, cataract surgical rate in China was more than 1500 per million people in 2015, but still far away from the aim of eliminate cataract blindness<sup>[2]</sup>. For the arrival of the aging society and the improvement of life expectancy, the number of age-related cataract surgery will continue to increase greatly. We should pay more attention not only to the quality of the surgery but also to the recovery after surgery so as to improve the visual function and life quality of the patients. So far, the clinical effect of phacoemulsification with intraocular lens implantation has been fully affirmed for age-related cataract<sup>[3-6]</sup>. But it is still an urgent task to study for how to evaluate its therapeutic effect and recovery much more comprehensively. The patient's expectation of surgery is not only to improve the vision, but also to improve the life quality<sup>[7]</sup>. However, there are few studies focused on this field from the patients' own perspective in China.

As patients' opinions on health care have got more and more attention, patient-reported outcome has been thought as much more important in clinical research. Many studies have shown

that Catquest-9SF showed excellent psychological properties and highly sensitive to cataract surgery<sup>[8-11]</sup>. There has been study shown that the Chinese version of Catquest-8SF was simple, efficient and suitable for clinical use in southern China<sup>[12]</sup>, so we planned to study whether Catquest-8SF would be efficient and suitable for clinical use in northern China. Furthermore, we analyzed the patient's satisfaction with the operation combined with the recovery of visual function and the patient-reported outcome, so as to make better clinical guidance for postoperative recovery of age-related cataract and to improve the visual function and life quality of patients.

## SUBJECTS AND METHODS

**Research Tool** The Chinese version of Catquest-8SF was developed from the Catquest-9SF using Rasch analysis. The Catquest-9SF was translated into Chinese and re-translated back into English and cultural modification of the items<sup>[13]</sup>. The Catquest-8SF consists of 3 types of items (8 items in total), a global daily life difficulty item (item 1), a global vision satisfaction item (item 2) and a group of 6-items referring to difficulties in performing daily activities, e.g. reading books, recognizing people's face, seeing to walk on uneven road (items 3-8) (Table 1).

The response categories for questions 1, 3-8 are "yes, very great problems", "yes, great problems", "yes, slight problems", "no, no problems" and "cannot determine". The response category for question 2 "satisfaction with vision" is "very unsatisfied", "fairly unsatisfied", "fairly satisfied", "very satisfied", or "cannot determine". Patients completed the scale at the day before and three months after the operation respectively.

In order to ensure the comparability of the results and reduce the patients' errors in filling the scale, the survey was hold by the experienced investigators. We also required the patients to fully cooperate with them, tried their best to understand the scale, and to express their feelings carefully. In addition, two investigators hold the survey of the patients to ensure the reliability.

At the same time, we designed the related follow-up questionnaire to record the baseline data such as demographic, visual functional and ocular characteristics of patients and record the perioperative subjective symptoms such as eye pain. Furthermore, we recorded the patient's satisfaction with the operation and whether the effect met the patient's expectation during the follow-up of 3mo after the surgery. The satisfaction of the operation was based on the Likert five-component scale, which was "very unsatisfied", "fairly unsatisfied", "fairly satisfied", "very satisfied" or "cannot determine".

Subjects prospective clinical follow-up study was carried out. Age-related cataract patients undergone phacoemulsification with posterior chamber SIOL were included in the study in the Central Hospital of Tai'an during October 2016 to March 2017.

**Table 1 Items score and response rate of the Catquest-8SF-CN**

Items	Score	Response rates (%)
C1 Daily-life activities in general	2.3±0.7	100.0
C2 Satisfaction with vision	1.9±0.7	100.0
C3 Reading text in the newspaper	1.7±1.3	74.2
C4 Recognizing faces of people you meet	2.4±1.0	100.0
C5 Seeing prices of goods when shopping	2.1±1.3	87.5
C6 Seeing to walk on uneven ground	2.5±1.0	97.5
C7 Reading text on television	2.4±1.0	86.7
C8 Seeing to carry out a preferred hobby	2.2±1.3	88.3

The exclusion criterias were: 1) implantation of multifocal intraocular lenses; 2) with history of severe ocular trauma; 3) patients with psychiatric disorders or cognitive disorders.

This study was approved by the review board of the Central Hospital of Tai'an and followed the tenets of the Declaration of Helsinki. Presenting visual acuity (PVA) was used to record the vision. PVA means that the patients who normally do not wear glasses record the sight of the naked eyes, and the patients who normally wear glasses record the corrected visual acuity<sup>[14]</sup>. PVA was converted to logarithm of the minimum angle of resolution (logMAR) visual acuity when it came to the statistical analysis<sup>[15-16]</sup>. A total of 102 patients completed three months follow-up after the operation. The main outcomes of the study were compared with the monocular surgery group and the binocular surgery group.

**Preoperative Examination and Treatment** Routine physical and ocular examinations were performed to rule out contraindications. Preoperative ocular examinations included the tests of visual acuity, slit lamp microscope, noncontact intraocular pressure, direct ophthalmoscope, corneal curvature and axial length. Furthermore, the SRK/T formula was used to calculate the diopter of intraocular lens. The lacrimal passage irrigation was performed before the operation to rule out dacryocystitis. The B-mode ultrasound was applied to examine whether there was retinal detachment or severe vitreous opacity. Optical coherence tomography was used for patients with suspected macular disease. The examination of visual field, optic nerve optical coherence tomography and 24h intraocular pressure were performed for the patients with high intraocular pressure or increasing cup disc ratio. Gatifloxacin, tobramycin and pranoprofen eye drops were given 1-2d before the operation.

**Operation Methods** Patients were given compound tropicamide eye drops (1 mL: 5 mg and 5 mg tropicamide phenylephrine hydrochloride) half an hour before operation for mydriasis. 0.04% oxybuprocaine surface anesthesia was given 3 times before the surgery. Routine eye disinfection was done before opening eyelid by blepharostat. Puncture at 2 point of the corneal limbus with 15° knife and sodium hyaluronate was injected into the anterior chamber. 3 mm clear corneal incision was made at 10 point of the corneal limbus and continuous circular capsulorhexis were made with the diameter of 5.5 mm-6 mm. And then water separation and water

stratification were carried out. Stop-and-chop and phacoemulsification were given. The lens cortex was irrigated and absorbed. The anterior chamber was formed with sodium hyaluronate and foldable intraocular lens was implanted into the lens sac. The sodium hyaluronate was irrigated and absorbed and then made the incision watertight. Finally the surgical eye was covered at the end of the surgery.

**Postoperative Treatment and Follow-up** Tobramycin dexamethasone eye drops and praventine eye drops were given to reduce inflammation. Complications such like high intraocular pressure, corneal edema were treated in time. Patients were asked for further follow-up in our hospital after 1wk, 2wk, 1mo and 3mo, with examination of visual acuity, intraocular pressure, slit lamp microscopy, direct ophthalmoscope and optical coherence tomography, fundus fluorescein angiography if necessary.

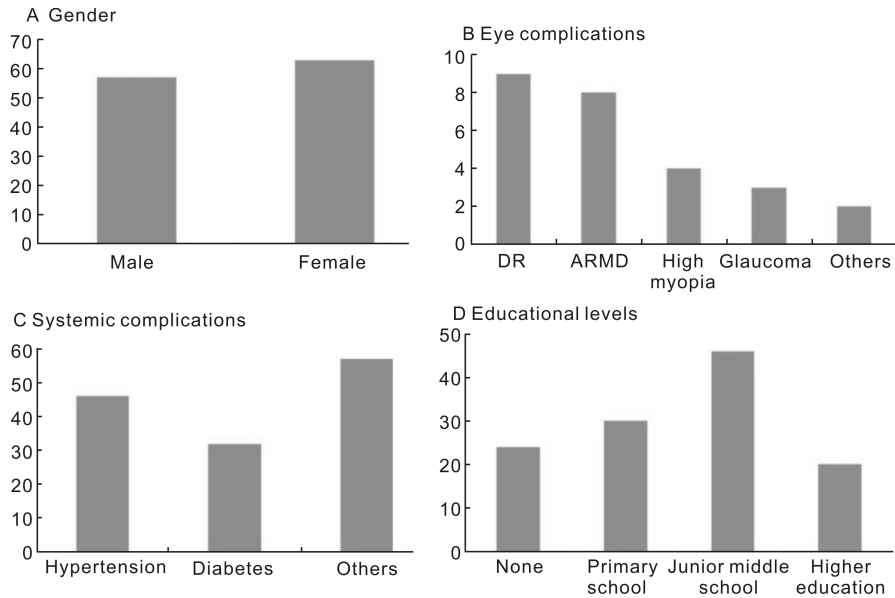
**Statistical Analysis** This study used Excel to establish database, and data analysis were carried out using SPSS 22.0 statistical software. Data was presented as mean ± SD for continuous variables with normal distribution and frequency (percentage) for categorical variables. *T*-test was used for two groups. The Kruskal Wallis test was used for variables with more than two levels. Wilcoxon-Mann Whitney test was used for variables with two levels. Chi-square test was used to compare the proportion of the patients achieving expected improvement between groups. Spearman's rank correlation coefficients were calculated for measuring the strength of the association between binocular weighted logMAR visual acuity and Catquest-8SF score. The significance level was at *P*<0.05.

**RESULTS**

**The Clinical Feature of the Patients Before the Surgery** Phacoemulsification with posterior chamber SIOL was performed and the Catquest-8SF-CN was filled before the surgery in 120 people with 153 eyes (Figure 1).

The mean age of the patients was 67.6 years and 63 (52.5%) were women. There were 84 (70.0%) patients combined with hypertension, diabetes and cardio-cerebrovascular disease and other systemic diseases. Besides, there were 26 (23.2%) patients the operative eye with an ocular comorbidity including diabetic retinopathy, age-related macular degeneration and combined with glaucoma *etc.*

**Items Score and Response Rate of each Item** Items score



**Figure 1** Characteristics of the participants before surgery.

**Table 2** Items analysis and the Cronbach's  $\alpha$  coefficient of the Catquest-8SF-CN

Items	Total score after deleting this item	Calibration of total correlation coefficient	Cronbach $\alpha$ after deleting this item
C1 Daily-life activities in general	15.13	0.587	0.850
C2 Satisfaction with vision	15.54	0.472	0.859
C3 Reading text in the newspaper	15.73	0.585	0.850
C4 Recognizing faces of people you meet	14.99	0.724	0.833
C5 Seeing prices of goods when shopping	15.34	0.687	0.836
C6 Seeing to walk on uneven ground	14.96	0.721	0.832
C7 Reading text on television	14.97	0.733	0.831
C8 Seeing to carry out a preferred hobby	15.19	0.482	0.863

and response rate of each item was shown in Table 1. Item 3 missed some data and the reason might be 45% patients were under primary education and they did not have the habit of reading newspapers or books.

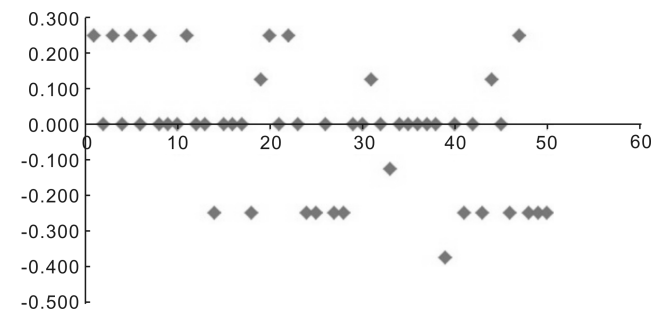
**Analysis of Reliability and Validity of the Catquest-8SF-CN**

The score of every item were positively correlated with the total score. The Cronbach's  $\alpha$  coefficient of the total scale, daily-activity subtable and comprehensive-evaluation subtable were 0.861, 0.853 and 0.748 respectively (Table 2).

The Cronbach's  $\alpha$  coefficient would decline after deleting any item excluded C8. There was high consistency between the two investigators, and the total score of the two investigators were highly correlated (Figure 2).

The results of SPSS showed that the value of KMO was 0.876 and the value of Bartlett sphericity was 419.95 ( $P < 0.001$ ). The principal component analysis and the maximum variance orthogonal rotation method were used to extract the factors. The cumulative contribution rate was 66.64% (Table 3).

Finally, the Catquest-8SF-CN showed the advantages of high internal consistency, reliability, clear factor structure, high variance contribution rate and good structure validity in northern Chinese cataract patients.



**Figure 2** Scatter plot of the results of two reviewers' measurements 0.000 on Y-axis show population mean, 0.200 (-0.200) shows 2 standard deviation.

**The Influence Factors of the Catquest-8SF-CN Score**

The preoperative score of the Catquest-8SF-CN had a significant negative correlation with preoperative binocular weighted logMAR visual acuity ( $r = -0.452$ ) and the age ( $r = -0.335$ ) (all  $P < 0.05$ ), while a significant positive correlation with education level ( $F = 6.094$ ;  $P < 0.001$ ). The patients without systemic comorbidities got higher score than those who with the systemic comorbidities ( $P < 0.05$ ). There was no statistically significant difference in the score of patients with different gender and whether with an ocular comorbidity ( $P > 0.05$ ) (Table 4).

**Table 3 Results of factor analysis of the Catquest-8SF-CN**

Items	The first factor	The second factor
C1 Daily-life activities in general	0.249	0.810
C2 Satisfaction with vision	0.050	0.892
C3 Reading text in the newspaper	0.714	0.203
C4 Recognizing faces of people you meet	0.581	0.585
C5 Seeing prices of goods when shopping	0.843	0.172
C6 Seeing to walk on uneven ground	0.648	0.489
C7 Reading text on television	0.619	0.543
C8 Seeing to carry out a preferred hobby	0.708	0.059

**Table 4 The influence of different genders, cultural degrees, CC and SC on preoperative scale score**

Characteristics	<i>n</i>	Score(mean±SD)	Statistics ( <i>t</i> / <i>F</i> )	<i>P</i>
Male	57	17.35±6.38	<i>t</i> = -0.319	0.751
Female	63	17.70±5.57		
With SC	84	16.83±6.06	<i>t</i> = 1.995	0.048
Without SC	36	19.17±5.43		
With CC	26	16.92±6.13	<i>t</i> = 0.590	0.556
Without CC	94	17.70±5.92		
Education			<i>F</i> = 6.094	0.000
None	24	13.71±3.72		
Primary school	30	18.20±6.16		
Junior high school	46	17.70±6.21		
High school and above	20	20.75±5.03		

CC: Ocular comorbidity; SC: Systemic comorbidity.

**Table 5 Characteristics of the patients at the ends of the follow-up**

Characteristics	Monocular surgery cohort	Binocular surgery cohort	Statistics ( <i>t</i> / $\chi^2$ )	<i>P</i>
Age (mean±SD)	68.1±10.6	66.4±8.2	0.765	0.446
Gender (M/F)	37/37	12/16	0.415	0.519
CC ( <i>n</i> , %)	12 (16.2)	9 (32.1)	0.152	0.076
SC ( <i>n</i> , %)	56 (75.7)	21 (75.0)	0.005	0.944
Education ( <i>n</i> , %)				
None	18 (24.3)	3 (10.7)	2.789	0.425
Primary school	18 (24.3)	8 (28.6)		
Junior high school	30 (40.6)	12 (42.8)		
High school and above	8 (10.8)	5 (17.9)		

SD: Standard deviation.

Totally 102 patients completed 3mo follow-up with eye examination and questionnaire filling. There was no statistically difference between monocular surgery group and biocular surgery group in terms of sex, age, systemic comorbidities, ocular comorbidity and education ( $P > 0.05$ ) (Table 5).

Significant improvement of visual acuity was observed in both groups ( $t = 10.404$ ,  $P < 0.001$ ). There was higher improvement in logMAR visual acuity in binocular surgery group than in monocular surgery group ( $t = -20.77$ ,  $P < 0.001$ ). The postoperative score were significantly higher in both groups than before ( $P < 0.001$ ). However, there were no significant difference between the two groups in the preoperative score, postoperative score, and the improved score ( $P > 0.05$ ) (Table 6).

The improvement of the questionnaire score was correlated significantly with the improvement of the visual acuity. The improvement of the total score and the one or binocular surgery group score was not obviously influenced by systemic comorbidity, co-existing ocular comorbidity, sex or age (Table 7).

**The Preoperative, Intraoperative and Postoperative Pain**

All surgeries were completed under facial anesthesia. 17 patients (16.7%) had preoperative pain symptom, 33 patients (32.4%) had postoperative pain, and 53 patients (16.7%) had intraoperative pain. Among those who had intraoperative pain, 51 patients (50%) had mild pain and 2 (1.96%) had moderate pain, while no patient with severe pain.

**Overall Satisfaction** The overall satisfaction included the



**Table 6 Score of the questionnaire and binocular weighted logMAR visual acuity**

Parameters	Monocular surgery cohort	Binocular surgery cohort	Statistics	<i>P</i>	mean±SD
Score of preoperative	17.24±6.51	17.64±5.40	0.289		0.773
Score of postoperative	28.34±3.84	28.64± 2.11	0.397		0.692
Score of improvement	11.09±5.47	11.00±5.24	0.079		0.937
logMAR of postoperative	0.34±0.27	0.23±0.16	2.69		0.009
Improvement logMAR	-0.35±0.30	-0.16±0.18	3.01		0.003

SD: Standard deviation.

**Table 7 The effects of different genders, age, CC and SC on postoperative scale score**

Characteristics	Improvement score in monocular surgery group	<i>P</i>	Improvement score in binocular surgery group	<i>P</i>	Total score of improvement	<i>P</i>
With SC	11.71±5.58	0.086	11.38±4.91	0.516	11.62±5.38	0.067
Without SC	9.17±4.73		9.86±6.41		9.36±5.12	
With CC	11.17±5.83		9.00±4.56		10.24±5.31	
Without CC	11.08±5.44	0.961	11.95±5.39	0.169	11.28±5.41	0.43
Gender						
M	11.57±5.72		12.08±5.63		11.69±5.65	
F	10.62±5.24		10.19±4.96		10.49±5.11	0.26
Age (y)						
≥65	11.11±5.29	0.461	11.06±4.51	0.363	11.10±5.05	
<65	11.07±5.85	0.978	10.91±6.46	0.943	11.03±5.94	0.95

CC: Ocular comorbidity; SC: Systemic comorbidity; SD: Standard deviation.

**Table 8 The influence of gender, age, etc. on satisfaction**

Items	Gender	Age	SC	CC	Education	Uncomfortable preoperative	Uncomfort preoperative	Pain during-operative
Statistics	0.158	1.381	1.899	0.860	4.253	1.383	0.609	4.616
<i>P</i>	0.875 <sup>b</sup>	0.167 <sup>b</sup>	0.058 <sup>b</sup>	0.390 <sup>b</sup>	0.235 <sup>a</sup>	0.167 <sup>a</sup>	0.542 <sup>b</sup>	0.465 <sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Kruskal-Wallis test; <sup>b</sup>Mann-Whitney test. SC: Systemic comorbidity; CC: Ocular comorbidity.

**Table 9 Correlation analysis between satisfaction and vision and scale score**

Statistics	logMAR of postoperative	Improvement of logMAR	Score of postoperative	Score of improvement
<i>r</i>	-0.104	-0.175	0.099	0.205
<i>P</i>	0.296	0.079	0.321	0.039

patients' satisfaction of preoperative examination and communication, the surgical procedure and the postoperative care and recovery. Totally 94 patients (92.2%) were very satisfied or satisfied with the operation. 92 patients (90.2%) thought the surgery achieved their expectations. Three months after the operation, different factors such like gender, age, education level, presence of systemic comorbidities or ocular comorbidities, preoperative/postoperative discomfort and pain in surgery had no obvious effect on satisfaction of patients (Table 8).

Correlation analysis showed that the satisfaction was significantly correlated with the improvement of the scale score ( $P < 0.05$ ) and there was no significant correlation between satisfaction and postoperative logMAR visual acuity and improved visual acuity ( $P > 0.05$ ) (Table 9).

## DISCUSSION

Age-related cataract is a very common clinical disease. With the increase of the elderly population and the development of surgical technique, the number of phacoemulsification with

SIOL for senile cataract will increase steadily. Although many studies have evaluated the effect of cataract surgery on the improvement of the quality of life, but the data on the surgical effect and satisfaction from the patients' own perspective is rare in China. This would be the point which the present study focused on.

### Selection and Advantages of the Catquest - 8SF - CN Questionnaire

The expectation of the patient was not only improve their visual function, but also improve their quality of life. Many studies have shown that Catquest - 9SF showed excellent psychological properties and was highly sensitive to cataract surgery, which had also got Rasch analysis verified<sup>[8-11]</sup>. This study confirms that the Catquest-8SF-CN is suitable for age-related cataract patients in northern China. It has good reliability and validity. Furthermore, it has good response to cataract surgery. So we believe that it would be a promising tool worthy of becoming part of a routine clinical assessment for cataract surgery.

Data of 120 patients with age-related cataract had been

collected before surgery. The mean age of the patients was 67.6 years, and 63 (52.5%) were women. There were 26 (23.2%) patients the operative eye with an ocular comorbidity including diabetic retinopathy, age-related macular degeneration and combined with glaucoma *etc.* 45% of the patients had education background of primary school or below while 16.7% of those had high school education or above.

In order to ensure that the survey results were comparable and to reduce the error caused by the patients, we trained the investigators at first. Then they collected the data from the patients by face-to-face interview carefully. In fact the Catquest-8SF-CN is concise and will not bring any burden to patients, so this is the significant advantage of the Catquest-8SF in the numerous cataract questionnaires.

Items analysis showed that the internal consistency of the items was good. The Cronbach's  $\alpha$  coefficient of the total scale, daily-activity subtable and comprehensive-evaluation subtable were 0.861, 0.853 and 0.748 respectively. Bland-Altman analysis showed that the reliability of different investigators was good, and the two investigators' items score were highly correlated, which supported that different investigators with standardized training could keep good consistency and stability in the survey.

Postoperative binocular weighted mean logMAR visual acuity had been significantly improved than the preoperative visual acuity. Postoperative score increased significantly than the preoperative score. It reflected the sensitivity of this questionnaire to cataract surgery.

The Catquest-8SF-CN consisted of 8 items in total, including a global daily life difficulty item (item 1), a global vision satisfaction item (item 2) and a group of 6-items referring to difficulties in performing daily activities. The latter contains 4 visual function items and 2 active items, which reflected the visual function related quality of life of the cataract patients to some extent. Of course, the Catquest-8SF-CN also has some disadvantages, for example, it does not involve the evaluation of the patient's mental status.

Most scales are designed in highly developed countries, and although the scales are very sensitive to different cultures, most published cataract scale items are similar. Most current scales fail to fully cover all aspects of patient-reported outcomes, and the measurement results between different scales cannot be compared directly. Therefore, developing some intelligent tools on the basis of constructing item pool, customizing special items for special patient groups from the item pool, will be a possible future direction for designing and developing the clinical cataract questionnaire.

#### **Factors Influencing the Catquest - 8SF - CN Score**

Previous studies have shown that visual function related quality of life was significantly correlated to distant visual acuity<sup>[13,17-18]</sup>. Our study also found that the preoperative score of the Catquest-8SF-CN and preoperative binocular weighted logMAR visual acuity had a significant correlation. The

improvement of the postoperative score were significantly correlated with the improvement of visual acuity. In this study, the score of preoperative scale were significantly negatively correlated with age while gender had no significant influence on the score. The score were negatively correlated with preoperative visual acuity and age. There was a significant difference between different genders in the study of Huang *et al*<sup>[13]</sup>. In the study of the Swedish population<sup>[18]</sup>, gender was one of the influencing factors of the score while age was not. This may be caused by the differences in lifestyle in different living environment.

In this study, it has been observed that the higher of education levels of the patients, the higher preoperative and postoperative score they would get. Score of patients with no systemic comorbidity were significantly higher than those with systemic comorbidity. The improvement score were higher in patients with systemic comorbidity, but lower in patients with an ocular comorbidity. The reasons might be the patients of higher education level would pay more attention on vision loss, thus they were easier to obtain better clinical treatment. Patients with an ocular comorbidity might visit an ophthalmologist earlier and get earlier treatment, but ocular comorbidity had a certain effect on visual functional related life quality. It reminds us that we should not only consider the visual factors, but also pay attention to the life quality of patients on the timing of the operation. For some patients with high level of education and more social activities or patients with an ocular comorbidity, they were more sensitive to activities limit caused by visual impairment, so the surgical timing should be much earlier than common patients. In addition, gender and age had no significant influence on the improvement score.

Significant improvement of visual acuity was observed in both monocular surgery group and binocular surgery group. There was higher improvement in binocular weighted mean logMAR visual acuity in binocular surgery group than in monocular surgery group. The postoperative score were significantly higher in both groups than before. However, there were no significant difference between the two groups in the preoperative score and postoperative score and the improved score. So the recovery of visual acuity and vision related quality of life improvement were not always consistent. Binocular surgery could improve the patients' visual function better but monocular surgery can achieve the improvement of visual function related quality of life similar with binocular surgery. This is consistent with previous findings<sup>[19-20]</sup>.

**Factors Influencing Satisfaction of the Operation** Three months after the surgery, we found that the overall satisfaction was high by using the Catquest-8SF-CN, and the majority of patients thought the surgical treatment results achieved their expectation. The degree of satisfaction was significantly correlated with the total score of the postoperative scale, postoperative visual acuity and the improved visual acuity. Besides, patients' satisfactions were also correlated with their

expectation of the surgery. Different gender, age, educational level, systemic comorbidity, ocular comorbidity, preoperative or postoperative eye discomfort, and intraoperative pain level had no significant influence on satisfaction. The satisfaction of the surgery was not always consistent with the clinical vision, for it was also influenced by the patients' expectation and the visual function related life quality. Some patients who had improved visual acuity were not satisfied with the outcome because they had too high expectations for the effects of surgery. While some patients who had an ocular comorbidity, although their visual acuity improvement was not obvious, but in the daily life environment they could see better, combined with good preoperative communication, they were often satisfactory. This was consistent with previous findings<sup>[21-22]</sup>, which showed that patient satisfaction was not only related to the clinical effect, but also related to the patients' expectations. The study of Pager<sup>[23]</sup> showed that displaying the visual prognosis and the risk of the surgery with a simple video may improve patients' understanding of surgery and satisfaction, so that to reduce the preoperative anxiety than simply to show the anatomical structure. The study of Tipotsch-Maca SM<sup>[24]</sup> showed that multimedia presentations could help patients, especially elderly patients, to understand the operation better and improve their satisfaction. This reminded us that we should attach great importance to the way of preoperative communication with patients, such as using multimedia and communicating with patients according to their individual condition. In this way, patients would have the sufficient understanding and appropriate expectations of surgery, so as to improve their satisfaction. The results of the survey on the satisfaction of phacoemulsification with posterior chamber SIOL were quite different among different studies. Previous study of Chen<sup>[25]</sup> showed that satisfaction was associated with visual acuity improvement, age, duration, education, career, payment method, or ability to meet reading *etc.* Another study showed that patients' satisfaction was related to the education level, the combination of systemic and ocular diseases, preoperative vision level, and the degree of turbidity of cataracts through the study of cataract patients in southern China<sup>[26]</sup>. Half of the patients in this study had mild eye pain and eye swelling discomfort during the surgery and 1/3 patients suffered from postoperative eye pain, dryness and foreign body sensation. But the statistical analysis showed those who had no significant effect on overall satisfaction. This suggested that the mild pain, dryness and foreign body sensation during and after the operation did not cause great distress to the patients compared with the recovery of visual acuity and the improvement of the visual functional related quality of life three months after the surgery. Besides, the overall satisfaction of patients for operation is also influenced by other factors. Mokashi *et al*<sup>[27]</sup> believed that the communication between the patients during the surgery could alleviate the anxiety and improve the patients' satisfaction. We found that the Catquest - 8SF - CN is reliability and

validity, short and easy to use. Our study also found that the Catquest-8SF-CN was highly responsive to cataract surgery in northern Chinese. It could evaluate the patient-reported outcome conveniently, so it could be used as part of a routine clinical assessment for cataract surgery. There was significantly correlation between the improvement of score and visual acuity. Binocular surgery could improve the patients' visual function better, but monocular surgery could also achieve the similar improvement of the visual functional related quality of life. The influence factors of the score also reminded us that we should not only consider the visual function, but also consider the life quality of the patients in the timing of the surgery, so that to make a more reasonable treatment plan for patients' individual need.

The degree of satisfaction was significantly correlated with the total score of the postoperative scale, postoperative visual acuity and the improved visual acuity. Furthermore, patients' satisfaction was also correlated with their expectation of the surgery. It reminds us that we should attach great importance to the way of preoperative communication with patients, such as using multimedia and communicating with patients according to their individual condition. In this way, patients would have the sufficient understanding and appropriate expectations of surgery, so as to improve their satisfaction.

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