

〈特別記念プログラムⅡ〉

(21 世紀の香粧品Ⅱ—Quality of Life と化粧)

クオリティオブライフとは

田崎美弥子*

What Is Quality of Life ?

Miyako TAZAKI*

Abstract

Although the concept of Quality of Life (QOL) has not defined yet, Quality of Life publications are booming in medicine. The issue of Quality of Life was first brought in oncology, where a better QOL of patients was considered more important than prolonged survival time. Recently, the use of QOL has shifted and become often seen as an outcome measure in clinical trials, since Food and Drug Administration in the USA announced in 1985 that improved QOL could be useful for a new drug approval. Most QOL research focus on the efficacy of drugs to lessen the impact of the disease on functional ability and side effects, using QOL measure as one of indicators. Along with the increased number of papers, a numerous number of instruments have been developed, but no instrument was available which could be used for both developed and developing countries with sound psychometric evaluation. Therefore, the World Health Organization started a project to develop a quality of life assessment (the WHOQOL) with a clear definition of quality of life, which reflected on the definition of health of the WHO, and has produced the core instrument with 100 items, and the BREF with 26 items for a clinical use from 1992 to 1998. This paper is first to present the guidelines of psychometric criteria for the development of instruments, which often ignored. Then, introduces the outline of the WHOQOL measure and its concept of QOL, and last briefly describes Quality-Adjusted Life Year (QALY) and some consideration.

Key words: Quality of Life, WHOQOL, QALY, instrument development.