



Outcome measures for assessing change in children with hypermobility associated conditions and lower limb pain.



For specific details about how this framework was developed, please refer to the following publication:

Outcome measures for assessing change in children with hypermobility-associated conditions and chronic lower limb musculoskeletal pain: a Delphi survey of international health professions

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How was the framework developed?

We established an International Panel and conducted an e-Delphi survey to achieve expert consensus on the outcome measures that can be used to assess change in children with hypermobility associated conditions and lower limb pain. The International panel of 42 experts from 13 different countries comprised medical, nursing and allied health professionals with experience working (clinically or in research) with children with hypermobility associated conditions and lower limb pain over the last three years.

Participant country	N (%)
Algeria	1 (2)
Australia*	29 (56)
Brazil	1 (2)
Canada*	1 (2)
Ireland*	1 (2)
Italy*	1 (2)
Netherlands*	4 (8)
Nigeria	1 (2)
United Kingdom*	8 (15)
United States of America*	2 (4)
Singapore*	1 (2)
Sweden*	1 (2)
Thailand	1 (2)

*World Bank High income countries

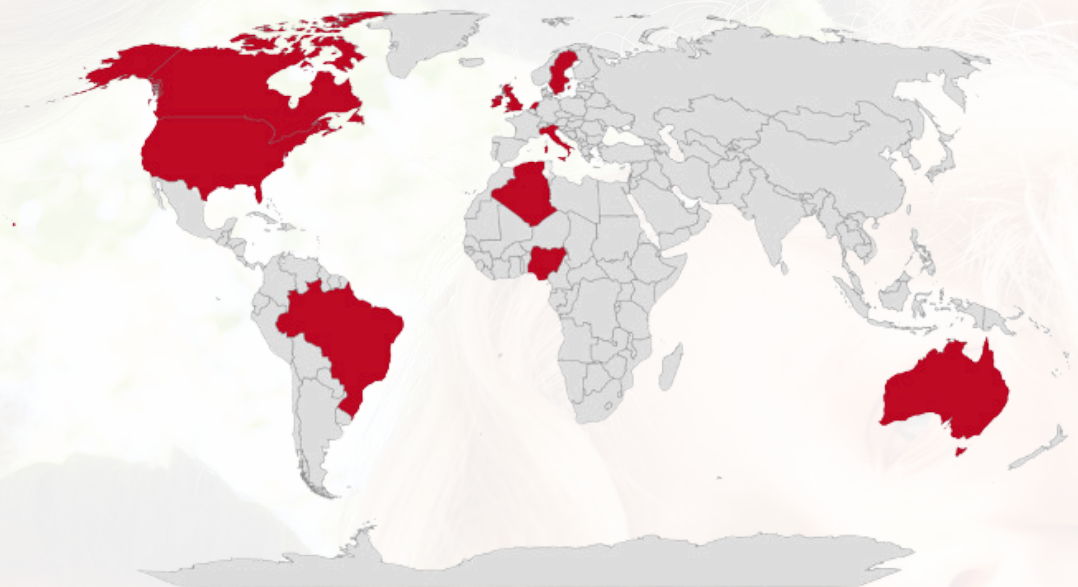


Figure 1. A global map showing locations of the expert Delphi panel (highlighted in red)

The Delphi Panel considered 62 outcome measures (derived from the literature and participant suggestion) across 4 domains (pain, function, quality of life and fatigue).

In the first two rounds, the Panel rated their agreement on the importance of each outcome measure in assessing children with hypermobility associated conditions and lower limb pain. In the third round the Panel ranked the importance of the outcome measures that had met consensus in three domains where more than one outcome measure met consensus. The final framework comprises 9 outcome measures across the four domains.

The purpose of the framework is not to dictate a list of outcome measures that must be used with every child with a hypermobility associated condition presenting with lower limb pain. The framework is designed to be utilised dynamically with outcome measures employable at different stages of the child's presentation to assess change in one or multiple domains. The framework presents health care professionals with ranked outcome measures that met consensus amongst a panel of international experts. Health care professionals are encouraged to engage clinical reasoning skills and select the outcome measures that are most suitable for their clinical setting and the presentation of their patient.

