The Goodness of Life for Every Alaska Native (GLEAN) Scale

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Background
- Quality of life (QOL) is widely researched; however, Alaska Native (AN) peoples are scarcely represented therein.
- The GLEAN study identified nine QOL domains: family, subsistence, access to resources, health and happiness, traditional knowledge and values, acts of self, providing, sobriety, and healing.

Methods
- Research guided by AN Elder community advisory board
- Participants (N = 500) were AN adults ranging in age from 18-76 (M = 42) and most were women (84%).
- Inclusion was identifying as an AN adult.
- Recruitment was done online and administered through Qualtrics; there was a chance to win 1/3 $250 gift card.
- Measures were a demographic survey; GLEAN Scale (45 questions based on 9 GLEAN Study domains); WHOQOL-BREF; COPPE Scale; SWLS; and AN Wellness Survey.

Analyses
- Quantitative, within-subjects design
- Data splitting for cross-validation
- Exploratory factor analysis (EFA)
- Confirmatory factory analysis (CFA)
- Hierarchical multiple regression

Results
- EFA produced a 5-factor model with 37-items. Subscale intercorrelations were moderate to strong and correlations between subscale factors and other measures were significant.
- CFA produced an 18-item model with adequate fit (chi-square/df ratio < 5; CFI ≥ .90; PNFI ≥ .60; IFI ≥ .90; and RMSEA ≤ .08).
- Three multiple regressions revealed that the GLEAN Scale, when controlling for QOL (WHOQOL-BREF), uniquely and significantly contributed to satisfaction with life, AN wellness, and overall wellbeing.

Conclusions
- Limitations include exploratory nature of analyses, the COVID-19 pandemic, and generalizability.
- This is the first validated measure to include culturally AN salient themes and the first for AN adults.
- Future implications exist for AN healthcare, mental health, community health, and research adaptation.

Reference