

## 2.2. Valuation

The EuroQol Valuation Working Group (VWG) has one of the most challenging and broad remits, reflecting the importance of valuation methodology to all our instruments. The VWG is charged with multiple aims across a variety of areas that include:

- Investigation of how our existing valuation approaches may be further refined;
- Investigation of new approaches to valuing health;
- Examining the basis/rationale for value sets for patient groups; and
- Collaboration with other WGs or approved groups that work on conceptual and practical issues concerned with valuation of EQ-5D technologies

We invite researchers to submit proposals related to these four main aims of the VWG. Additionally for this call, the members of the VWG have identified three priority areas.

First, we are interested in projects that consider how to conduct valuation studies where bolt-ons may be relevant in the particular patient population. In particular, how do we ensure that the value set for the EQ-5D with bolt-ons is comparable with a more conventional value set? Projects should, if possible, align with the ongoing bolt-on work being conducted in the Descriptive Systems Working Group. These studies can be either or both empirical or theoretical, but must inform the group how to consider valuation in this evolving content.

Second, the VWG has been developing a stand-alone DCE protocol. In the document presented at the September 2020 Virtual Meeting, a number of areas of specific research are highlighted as requiring further work. These include (but are not limited to) standardized code for (1) analyzing DCE data using a range of linear and non-linear approaches, and (2) updating designs with non-zero priors to conduct non-linear analyses.

Finally, we continue to invite you to submit addressing valuation of health states that are considered worse than dead. Using cTTO, for instance, we find that the obtained negative scores do not vary much. We seek to understand why this is the case and whether the findings are a product of people's preferences or indicate a limitation of the method. Broader work on valuation of worse than dead is also welcome.

The VWG welcomes research proposals using a variety of different methodological approaches, but the priority is for projects that would provide practical guidance for the EuroQoL Research Foundation in the above areas.