



EPIDEMIOLOGY

HEALTH CARE QUALITY OF AD IN GERMANY – INTERIM RESULTS OF “ATOPICHEALTH2”

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Introduction: With a prevalence of 5 to 20% in children and 1.13 to 4.0% in adults atopic dermatitis (AD) is one of the most common chronic diseases in Germany.

Objective: Obtain reliable data on quality of care of AD in adults in Germany taking into account the patient perspective.

Materials and Methods: This nationwide cross-sectional study is conducted with a random sample of dermatological centres. Half of the centres are asked to include patients with all severity grades (group A), the other half should only include patients with a current indication for systemic therapy (group B). Among other parameters, we assess clinical signs, subjective burden by treatment and disease, dermatology specific quality of life (DLQI), AD severity (SCORAD), patient benefit (PBI), and treatment satisfaction. The presented data are based on the first interim results of the ongoing study which has recruited 673 patients so far. 169 centres agreed to participate until now.

Results: The first 86 evaluable questionnaires returned until January, 2018. Of these, n=53 participants were included in group A, n=33 in group B. Mean age was 38.5 years. 49.4% were male. Almost all respondents stated to suffer from dry skin (98.1%) or itching (97.7%). Mean SCORAD was 49.3 ± 19.2 . 28.3% reported frequent insomnia due to itching. 23.1% of patients from group A and 33.3% from group B ever received systemic therapy. 20.8% from group A and 61.3% from group B showed a DLQI > 10. 26.4% participants of group A and 50% of group B stated to be dissatisfied with their current treatment.

Conclusions: Poor quality of life and sleep due to itching indicate a high disease-related burden and insufficient disease control by current treatment. Furthermore, patients with higher disease severity seem to be more dissatisfied with their treatment indicating the need for improvements in particular for this group.

