



PSORIASIS

PERCEPTION AND PREDICTORS OF PREJUDICE IN PEOPLE WITH PSORIASIS IN THE GERMAN POPULATION

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Introduction: A study regarding the perception of psoriasis showed that clear knowledge deficits and some prejudices against those affected exist. The extent of stigmatizing attitudes remained unclear.

Objective: Therefore, the aim is to gather prejudices and evidence for stigmatization of people with psoriasis.

Material and Methods: Representative telephone-survey in 2.004 adults using a standardized questionnaire. Descriptive analyses regarding area, age, gender and educational status were conducted. Binary logistic regression analyses were carried out to determine which variables independently influence the assessment of prejudices of "others" against people with psoriasis regarding "better care", "not wanting to touch" and "disgusted by psoriasis".

Results: The majority (74 %) believe that people with visible skin diseases are disadvantaged. Similarly, a majority (69 %) said that most people are disgusted, do not want to touch people affected (59 %) and think that people with psoriasis need better care (45 %). "Willing to build a partnership with an affected person", age and gender proved to be significant predictors of "disgusting". Education and age are significant predictors of "better care".

Conclusions: These data suggest that stigmatization in chronic skin diseases is still anchored. This overview shows the need for public interventions against stigmatization of those affected.

