



QUALITY OF LIFE, QUALITY OF CARE, AND PATIENT SAFETY

CORRELATION BETWEEN DISEASE SEVERITY, FAMILY INCOME, AND QUALITY OF LIFE IN PSORIASIS

Preethi B. Nayak⁽¹⁾ - Banavasi Shanmukha Girisha⁽¹⁾

K S Hegde Medical Academy, Department Of Dermatology, Venereology And Leprosy, Mangalore, India⁽¹⁾

Introduction: Psoriasis is a common, chronic inflammatory disorder of skin characterized by a long clinical course with exacerbations, remissions, and relapses. The cost of therapy and psychological burden of the disease depends on disease severity.

Objective: To assess the quality of life and financial status and to correlate the financial burden of the disease with the severity of psoriasis and quality of life.

Materials and Methods: A total of 102 psoriasis patients attending the dermatology outpatient department in our hospital were enrolled in this study. A detailed history and complete physical examination, including, Psoriasis Area and Severity Index (PASI), was done. Their family income was calculated. Quality of life was measured using the dermatology life quality index (DLQI) proposed by Finlay et al. Multiple linear regression was done to identify the predictor variables of quality of life (DLQI). $P < 0.05$ was considered statistically significant.

Results: Among the 102 psoriasis patients 78 were men (76.5%) and 24 were women (23.5%). The mean PASI score was 8.20 ± 6.18 the mean DLQI was 13.01 ± 6.95 , and mean family income was INR $15570.10 \pm$ INR 10081.82 per month. There was a significant positive correlation between disease severity and DLQI, and a significant negative correlation between family income and PASI as well as DLQI.

Conclusion: The quality of life in psoriasis is affected by both the disease severity and financial status of the patient. The chronic course of psoriasis along with disease severity, in a background of low financial status, impairs the quality of life.

