



QUALITY OF LIFE, QUALITY OF CARE, AND PATIENT SAFETY

EFFECT OF ACNE VULGARIS ON QUALITY OF LIFE IN ADOLESCENTS WITH OTHER CHRONIC DISEASES DETERMINED BY A GENERIC INSTRUMENT

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Introduction: Acne is a chronic inflammatory disease of the pilosebaceous unit. It is the most common skin disease in adolescence, a critical moment for self-image and self-esteem development. However, it is commonly perceived as trivial, compared to diseases of other organ systems, which could delay treatment. The Short Form-36 (SF-36) is a generic instrument to determine health-related QoL. To our knowledge, this is the first study that explores the effect of acne on QoL of otherwise healthy individuals as well as those with other diseases.

Objective: To determine the impact of acne on QoL on otherwise healthy adolescents and compare it with the effect on those with additional diseases.

Materials and Methods: We applied the SF-36 on 96 adolescents with acne. Among them, 71 patients had another chronic disease. We determined the impact of clinical and demographic characteristics on QoL. For analysis, we divided them into two groups and compared their scores.

Results: Dimensions such as vitality, mental health and general health were the most affected.

For demographic characteristics, we found that scores were worse for women than for men, especially on mental health, but the difference was not significant. In addition, QoL was significantly worse on patients with inflammatory lesions than on those with only comedones. There was not a significant difference between QoL in adolescents with acne as their sole disease and those with acne and an additional disease, in any of all health dimensions.

Conclusion: When comparing with the general population, patients with acne have a lower QoL, which is worse in those with inflammatory lesions. There was no difference in the scores between the two groups, which shows that even though acne is not a life-threatening disease, it can have as much a negative repercussion in the patients' QoL as other



ABSTRACT BOOK

ABSTRACTS



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