



QUALITY OF LIFE, QUALITY OF CARE, AND PATIENT SAFETY

## **SATISFACTION OF PATIENTS WITH THEIR DERMATOLOGIST DURING TREATMENT FOR MELANOMA OR BASAL CELL CARCINOMA: FINDINGS OF "OBJECTIFS PEAU CANCERS CUTANES," A FRENCH STUDY ON THE IMPACT OF SKIN-CANCER**

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**INTRODUCTION:** The prognosis of patients being treated for metastatic melanoma (MMM) has drastically improved over recent years with the advent of targeted therapies and immunotherapy, albeit sometimes at the cost of considerable specific toxicity and adverse effects. This study aimed to assess MMM patients' quality of life (QoL) and perceptions of treatment.

**MATERIAL AND METHODS:** This pragmatic cross-sectional study was conducted nationwide in France by hospital-based dermatologists.

Following an appointment for MM or BCC between June 2017 and March 2018, all patients were given the chance to complete a specific questionnaire including the EQ-5D and the Life Orientation Test (LOT).

**RESULTS:** 1172 patients questionnaires were assessable. The MMM-group comprised 170 patients, 59% of whom were women, and all of whom were included and treated by hospital-based dermatologists.

Regarding treatment, 71% were receiving immunotherapy and 17% targeted therapy, with 12% not on any treatment when the study was conducted but simply monitored following specific treatment.

More than half of MMM patients reported that the treatment they were receiving had little or no impact on their physical capacity (60%), hobbies (60%) or daily life (54%).

Additionally, 62% found that their treatment relieved their symptoms and 81% found that it was easy to take. In total, 80% of the patients were satisfied with their treatment and had never thought of stopping it.

QoL as evaluated by the EQ-5D/EQ-VAS standardized scale revealed a mean index value of 0.72 ( $\pm 0.25$ ) and an EQ-VAS score of 66.63 ( $\pm 17.33$ ).





Some 60% of patients were considered optimistic according to the criteria of the LOT (their score being below 17).

DISCUSSION: MMM patients had generally good perceptions of their treatment. The treatment was seen as being easy to adhere to by 9 in 10 patients and as moderately impacting daily life.

