ABSTRACT BOOK
LATE-BREAKING ABSTRACTS

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ATOPIC ECZEMA/DERMATITIS

SUBJECT TRAINING IMPROVES UNDERSTANDING OF ITCH IN PATIENT REPORTED OUTCOME DATA

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INTRODUCTION: The majority of subjects do not understand how to report itch severity, which is a self-report question often asked of subjects in pivotal dermatology clinical trials.

METHODS: For this study, 888 participants completed an online survey, in which they were asked to report on a scenario of itch severity using a numerical rating scale (NRS). Demographic data were also collected.

RESULTS: Participants were provided with the following scenario "You are participating in a clinical trial related to skin conditions and are asked to rate the severity of your worst itch over the past 24 hours, on a scale from 0 to 10 (where 0=no itch and 10=worst itch you can imagine). During the past day, the intensity of your itch changed from a 9 in the morning to a 1 in the evening when you are completing your report.
Only 45% of subjects chose the correct answer, '9', which was described as the worst itch in the scenario presented to them.
Then, some educational information was presented: When reporting the severity of itch on a daily basis, you should rate how severe the itch was at its worst point during the day. You should not average the itch severity you experienced that day or report the itch severity at the time you complete the report, but rather the most severe level of itching you experienced at any point during that day.
The original question was asked again.
After training, 58% of subjects provided the correct answer. Further, of the 488 subjects who initially provided an incorrect answer, 137 subjects or 28% (p<0.0001) improved after training.

CONCLUSIONS: Minimal educational information can substantially improve patient understanding of assessment completion. Thus, training patients more comprehensively on definitions and key concepts, can not only augment patient understanding, but also improve data quality.

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