Introduction
Psoriatic arthritis is an inflammatory type of arthritis associated with the chronic skin condition psoriasis. It is classified as a seronegative spondyloarthropathy due to the absence of rheumatoid factor (Kruuger 2003). Prevalence in general population varies between 0.4% and 1% (Gladman 2005). In one survey, about 85% of patients with PsA reported that they had psoriasis. One third of those with psoriasis reported joint stiffness (National Psoriasis Foundation 2002).

Objective
• To describe the characteristics of patients with psoriatic arthritis in Spain, with particular attention to demographic and clinical data.
• Health-related quality of life of patients with psoriatic arthritis in Spain.

Methods
• Study design: Cross-sectional, observational, multicenter study in 18 centers in Spain.
• Inclusion criteria:
  • Diagnosis of psoriatic arthritis confirmed by dermatologist or rheumatologist
  • Ability to understand and answer correctly the questionnaires used in the study
• Exclusion criteria:
  • Patients treated with a biological therapy other than infliximab
  • Patients with an axial involvement
• Data collection:
  • Demographical and clinical data (age, sex, disease duration)
  • Assessments:
    • Psoriasis area and severity index (PASI; range 0-72; higher scores represent high severity)
    • Health assessment questionnaire (HAQ; four different responses without any difficulty, with any difficulty with some difficulty, with much difficulties and unable to do)
    • Number of swollen and tender joints
    • EuroQol 5D (EQ-5D; range 1-3; higher scores represent worst HRQL)
    • Short Form 36 (SF-36; range 0-100; higher scores represent best HRQL)

Results
Patients included in the study: 287
PSAI: Mean score was low with a mean value 3.73
Number of swollen joint: Mean value 2.62
Number of tender joint: Mean value 4.97

Table 1: Demographical and clinical data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Mean (SD)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age, years²</td>
<td>52.40 (12.83)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disease duration, years³</td>
<td>10.85 (9.62)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sex</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>55.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>44.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of swollen joints</td>
<td>2.62 (4.05)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of tender joints</td>
<td>4.97 (8.65)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HAQ</td>
<td>3.75 (8.85)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Days per month without working⁴</td>
<td>1.06 (4.70)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hours per week without working⁴</td>
<td>0.75 (3.24)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Income reduction, % per month⁵</td>
<td>7.56 (32.64)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Need help from relatives of friends⁶</td>
<td>21.2</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Figure 1: HAQ percentages

EQ-SD:
• The “pain” domain demonstrated the worst score (mean = 1.86)
• 48.1% of patients reported that they have some difficulties or they felt unable to do daily activities
• Visual Analogue Scale (VAS) showed a mean score of 60.41

SF-36:
• Mean value for the physical component summary (PCS) 37.88
• Mean value for the mental component summary (MCS) 46.90

Figure 2: Mean values EQ-5D

Figure 3: Mean values SF-36

Conclusions
 Patients with psoriatic arthritis have a great impairment in their quality of life
• Due to the physical difficulties associated with the disease, patients with psoriatic arthritis have a loss of productivity and a reduction of their incomes
• The bodily pain join to physical disturbances are likely the most important factors that interfere patients life

References

Poster No.: PMS78