

Table 1. Employment status of Spanish Atlas survey respondents

Population	N	%	Employment status	N	%
Active population*	415	63.6	Employed	325	78.3
			Unemployed	90	21.6
			Total	415	100.0
Inactive population	238	36.4	Temporary sick leave	63	26.5
			Permanent sick leave	64	26.9
			Retired	63	26.5
			Homemakers	29	12.2
			Students	9	3.8
			Early retirement	10	4.2
			Total	238	100.0
Total	653	100.0			

*According to the ILO

Table 2. Association between sociodemographic characteristics and PROs comparing employed and unemployed axSpA patients

	Employed (N = 325) Mean ± SD or n (%)	Unemployed (N = 90) Mean ± SD or n (%)	p-value
Sociodemographic			
Age (years)	42.9 ± 8.6	42.0 ± 9.1	0.513
Gender (Male)	159 (48.9)	36 (40.0)	0.133
Education level (University)	153 (47.1)	21 (23.3)	0.001*
Marital status (Married)	231 (71.1)	54 (60.0)	0.051
Monthly income (€)	890.4 ± 592.3	358.5 ± 377.7	<0.001*
PROs			
Diagnostic Delay (years)	7.7 ± 7.6	8.0 ± 6.5	0.319
BASDAI (0-10)	5.2 ± 1.9	6.3 ± 1.9	<0.001*
Spinal Stiffness (3-12)	6.5 ± 2.6	7.8 ± 2.3	<0.001*
Global Limitation Index (0-54)	40.6 ± 10.1	45.0 ± 8.4	<0.001*
GHQ-12 (0-12)	4.9 ± 4.3	7.6 ± 4.2	<0.001*
Anxiety	52 (16.0)	25 (27.8)	0.011*
Depression	33 (10.2)	21 (23.3)	0.001*
Sleep disorder	50 (15.4)	18 (20.0)	0.295

Conclusion: The Spanish Atlas results show significant differences between employed and unemployed patients with axSpA, with greater disease activity, spinal stiffness, functional limitation, and poorer mental health in those who are unemployed.

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AB0685 IMPACT OF AXSPA ON WORKING LIFE: RESULTS FROM 233 PATIENTS OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION PARTICIPATING IN THE EUROPEAN MAP OF AXIAL SPONDYLOARTHRITIS (EMAS)

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Background: Axial spondyloarthritis (axSpA) has been shown to impact patients' (pts) professional opportunities, employment status and work productivity [1].

Objectives: To evaluate employment status, work-related issues and their interrelation with the disease-related characteristics among Russian axSpA pts.

Methods: The European Map of Axial Spondyloarthritis (EMAS) was a cross-sectional on-line survey of pts with self-reported axSpA conducted in 13 European countries. Russian participants were recruited between Dec 2017 and Feb 2018 through the Russian Ankylosing Spondylitis Association and an online panel. Socio-demographic, BASDAI, psychological distress (GHQ-12), working status and work-related issues (e.g. taking sick leave, difficulties fulfilling or reducing working hours, etc.) were assessed.

Results: 233 Russian pts participated in EMAS. The mean age was 36.7±9.1 years, 51.9% were female, and the mean disease duration was 12.4±9.5 years. Of the 233, 226 reported their employment status and productivity, of which 73.45% were employed, 12.39% were unemployed, 4.42% were on sick leave, 3.54% were homemakers, 2.21% were retired, 2.21% were on early retirements, 1.77% were students. Of the 160 pts, who reported their occupation, 73 (45.63%) were employed and had jobs requiring higher education qualifications, 39 (24.38%) had management positions, 23 (14.38%) were skilled manual workers and 12 (7.50%) were skilled non-manual workers, 3 (1.88%) were occupied in armed forces, 3 (1.88%) pts worked as unskilled workers. 124 (76.54%) of 162 pts survey respondents declared to have suffered work issues related to their disease in the 12 months prior to the survey. The most common work-related issue was difficulty fulfilling working hours in 69 (56.56%), followed by taking sick leave 49 (40.16%) and asking for days off 44 (36.07%) out of 122 pts. Pts who reported any type of issues at work had higher BASDAI and psychological distress (GHQ-12 score) (table 1). 145 (76.32%) out of 190 responded pts reported that their choice of workplace had been influenced by the disease (68.25%).

Table 1. BASDAI and GHQ-12 by work-related issues and difficulty fulfilling working hours due to axSpA.

Any type of issue at work	BASDAI			GHQ-12		
	Mean	SD	N	Mean	SD	N
No	3.14*	1.93	38	2.95*	3.39	38
Yes	4.97*	2.08	124	6.53*	3.76	124
Difficulty fulfilling working hours	Mean	SD	N	Mean	SD	N
No	4.53**	2.15	55	5.49**	3.80	55
Yes	5.32**	1.96	69	7.36**	3.54	69

* Mann-Whitney test p-values < 0.001

** Mann-Whitney test p-values < 0.05

Conclusion: Results from the Russian sample of the EMAS survey highlight the impact of axSpA in working life. Patients with any type of work-related issue mark above the cut-off point of BASDAI and GHQ-12, so work-related issues are associated to a status of high disease activity and a risk of poor mental health. Among all work-related issues surveyed, the presence of presenteeism (measured by difficulty fulfilling working hours) is associated to both a clinical and significant increase in disease activity through BASDAI.

References:

[1] van Lunteren, M., et al. <https://doi.org/10.1093/rheumatology/kex365>.

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AB0686 ONLINE QUESTIONNAIRE CAN IMPROVE DELAY IN AXIAL SPONDYLOARTHRITIS DIAGNOSTICS. RESULTS OF SAINT PETERSBURG AXSPA EARLY DIAGNOSTICS PROJECT

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Background: Due to current data mean diagnostics delay in axial spondyloarthritis (axSpA) is 7.4 ± 8.4 years (mean ± SD) [1]. However, development