(3.4%), and family physicians, 49 (20.8%). FM was considered a clinical diagnosis by 208 (88.1%) and most physicians think FM is both a physical and psychological condition, 190 (80.5%). Full results on physicians’ perceptions is shown in Table 1. Fatigue was the symptom which most physicians agreed or strongly agreed was important in FM, 219 (92.7%). Disagreement (any degree) was greater regarding abdominal pain/cramping being an important symptom in FM, 52 (22%). Complete results can be seen in Image 1.

Table 1. Perceptions of physicians about FM.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>FM is a clinic diagnostic, n (%)</th>
<th>FM is a diagnostic, n (%)</th>
<th>FM is a physical disease, n (%)</th>
<th>FM is a psychological illness, n (%)</th>
<th>FM is both physical and psychological, n (%)</th>
<th>FM has a negative impact on quality of life, n (%)</th>
<th>FM has a negative impact on life expectancy, n (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>208 (88.1)</td>
<td>190 (80.5)</td>
<td>12 (5)</td>
<td>9 (4)</td>
<td>116 (48.9)</td>
<td>227 (96.2)</td>
<td>135 (57.2)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Conclusion: FM was considered a clinical diagnosis and an illness both physical and psychological by most physicians. Headache and abdominal pain/cramping are symptoms less likely to be perceived as important in patients with FM.

References:


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