section 2 – Specific Concerns, beliefs related to the dangers of addiction and long-term toxicity or side effects. Higher scores (scale from 5 to 25 points), in sections 1 and 2, reflect the belief of greater need and greater concern regarding medication, respectively. The average scores in section 1 and in section 2 of the BMQ were 9 and 15.7 points, respectively. Statistics: descriptive, Student t-Test, Pearson Correlation and ANOVA, p<0.05.

Results: Patients with PsA and younger age had a higher mean score in section 2 of the BMQ (p=0.049 and p<0.01, respectively). The variables male gender, education ≥ 9 years and shorter duration of the disease also showed a tendency to be associated with the higher score in section 2 of the BMQ, with p-values close to statistical significance (p=0.091, p=0.074 and p<0.094, respectively). In the multivariate analysis with the above variables, only the diagnosis of PsA showed a statistically significant association with the score in section 2 of the BMQ (B=4.269; p=0.001; CI 95%=[2.060-6.477]). There was also a statistically significant correlation (r=0.007) between the scores in section 1 and section 2 of the BMQ. Regarding analysis of section 2 of the BMQ, there was an association between the subcutaneous route of drug administration in individuals with RA and greater concern with the adverse effects of the medication (p=0.007), and between low disease activity and greater belief in the specific need for medication for the disease (p=0.006).

Conclusion: In this study, patients with PsA were more concerned about the possible adverse effects of medication than patients with RA. RA patients who take subcutaneous drugs are more afraid of the drug’s toxic potential, and those with lower disease activity have a greater need to comply with the prescribed therapy, which can be explained by the previous effectiveness of the drug in disease control. It was also found that the greater the belief in the need for medication, the greater the concern with its possible long-term harmful effects.

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