HPR Patients’ perspectives, functioning and health (descriptive: qualitative or quantitative)

POST007-HPR DOES FIBROMYALGIA AFFECT OCCUPATIONAL PRODUCTIVITY IN PATIENTS WITH RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS?

Keywords: Work-related issues, Fibromyalgia, Rheumatoid arthritis

O. Hamdi1, H. Boussaa3, S. Miladi1, B. A. Hiba1, L. Souabni1, K. Ouenniche1, S. Kassab1, S. Chekili1, K. Ben Abdelghani1, F. Alaia1, A. Laatar1.1 Mongi Slim Hospital, Rheumatology, Tunisia, Tunisia

Background: Rheumatoid arthritis (RA) may have a negative impact on patients’ autonomy, quality of life and work productivity. Associated fibromyalgia may further accentuate this issue.

Objectives: To understand how patients with fibromyalgia and RA diagnosis are affected by fibromyalgia on occupational productivity.

Methods: We conducted a cross-sectional study including RA patients (2010 ACR/EULAR criteria). Patients were divided into two groups: group 1 (G1) including patients with fibromyalgia associated to RA, and group 2 (G2) including patients with RA. Fibromyalgia screening was based on the Fibromyalgia Rapid Screening Tool (FIRST). All patients completed the following questionnaires: Workplace Activity Limitations Scale (WALS) which is composed of 11 items (total score varying between 0 and 33), Work Productivity and Activity Impairment (WPAI) and Euro-Qol (EQ-5D). We compared the two groups of patients using the Student’s t-test. The significance threshold was set at a p value of 0.05.

Results: Our study included 80 patients (G1: N=40 and G2: N=40) with an average age of 59±9 years [42-77] for G1, and 53±10 years for G2 [37-74]. The gender-ratio was 0.05. All the patients in G1 and 80% of patients in G2 held a job. The mean RA duration was 11.29±24.8 years, RA was erosive and ACPR/RF positive in 90% and 85% of cases, respectively. The mean delay between fibromyalgia and RA diagnosis was 49±7 months. The mean Disease Activity Score 28 (DAS28) was 5 in G1, and 3.97 in G2. The reduction of work activity was greater in G1 compared to G2: the mean WALS in G1 was 18±2.7 vs 10.2±1.5 in G2; p= 0.01. The WPAI showed that the mean number of work hours missed due to RA was significantly higher in G1 compared to G2: 10.2±8 hours vs 4.3±8 hours (p< 0.01). The mean absenteeism rate was higher in G1 compared to G2: 23.1% in G1 vs 10.2±8.5% in G2 (p= 0.02). The percentage of overall impairment of health-related activity was higher in G1 compared to G2: 50±8.6% in G1 vs 30±4.4% in G2 (p= 0.01). The self-rated health status using the EQ-SD VAS was 72.08 ±7% in G1 and 48 ±3.5% in G2 (p=0.05). The most affected dimensions in the EQ-SD for both groups were in the first place pain and discomfort, and secondly mobility. Loss of autonomy was found in 7 patients (37.5%) in G1 and 3 patients (75%) in G2. Depression and/or anxiety occurred in 45% of cases in G1, and 22.5% of cases in G2, respectively.

Conclusion: Our study showed that RA-associated fibromyalgia has a negative impact on work performance and productivity. This association also seems to alter the quality of life.

REFERENCES: NIL.

Acknowledgements: NIL.

Disclosure of Interests: None Declared.

DOI: 10.1136/annrheumdis-2023-eular.6252