

Quality of life in patients with AD in Argentina. A web-based survey of 1650 adults and children with AD conducted by two patient associations.

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Abstract

Atopic dermatitis (AD) is a chronic, recurrent, inflammatory skin condition that is associated with detrimental effects on the lives of patients and their families, including an impact on quality of life (QOL). Studies about QOL on Latin American AD patients are scarce and have generally included few patients. With the objective of describing AD impact on the QOL in a large cohort, we present the results of a web-based survey conducted in Argentina. A structured web-based survey including 1,650 AD pediatric and adult patients was performed. According to retrieved data, AD symptoms onset started during childhood in most patients, but 20 % of participants reported that manifestations of AD were initially perceived during late adolescence and adulthood. Important differences were observed among countries regions, with a shorter time-to-diagnosis in most populated and richer districts. Main affected domains included frustration, anger, mood alterations, stress, sleep alterations, routines alterations, pain and economic impact of AD. We consider that our study contributes to a better understanding of AD in Argentina, as well as its physical, social and financial impact on affected patients.