

20A170: The Burden of Psoriatic Arthritis in Ireland: The CIMPACO Study Group

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Background: Musculoskeletal Diseases (MSK) represent one of the largest illness burdens worldwide, greatest in Europe. Psoriatic Arthritis (PsA) is a chronic, progressive, disabling inflammatory disease usually associated with Psoriasis. International studies show the disease is often misdiagnosed, poorly managed and represents a substantial disease burden associated with large healthcare costs. Epidemiology studies of the burden of illness for The Republic of Ireland are few.

Methods: We assessed the healthcare burden of PsA from cohorts of patients seen in 2 Rheumatology centres in the West of Ireland. Data from 114 patients with a consultant rheumatologist diagnosis of PsA were included, and compared with National Survey data as well as published US and EU data.

Results: PsA affects between 5,500 and 40,000 Irish adults and is associated with significant morbidity, disability and cost. Our patients reported a mean disease duration of 11 years, range: ,1 year to 40 years and a mean H.A.Q. of 0.81, range 0 – 2.75, and average medication costs were €5,694, range: 0 - €30,000 per annum. Patients with co-morbidities reported greater illness burden

Table 1. Comparison of Saolta PsA cohort with National Population, EU-5 and US data.

Domain	Saolta	Ireland	EU	US
Mean Age (Range)	55 (21 - 86)		51	48
Male Gender (%)	47		46	46
Smokers (%)	14	22	32	30
General Health Rated Very good or Excellent (%)	27	41		
Work Impairment (%)	63	24	33	33
Activity Impairment (%)	39	28	27	28
Moderate-Severe Pain (%)	59	<10		
Depression (%)	38	8		

Conclusion: Psoriatic Arthritis affects thousands of Irish adults and is associated with a significant illness burden in terms of morbidity, disability and healthcare costs. More comprehensive and detailed studies are needed, with inclusion of patients from other geographic areas.