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INTRODUCTION

Hidradenitis suppurativa (HS), psoriasis (PS), atopic dermatitis (AD) and chronic urticaria (CU) together affect 1 in 5 French adults. The high impact of HS on quality of life is well documented. We wanted compare the socio-economical impact of HS to those of others chronic inflammatory dermatosis.

MATERIALS And METHODS

We performed an observational multicentre study including all adult patients with moderate-to-severe HS, AD, PS or CU. Demographic data, disease history, severity, treatments were recorded by the investigator at inclusion; data on disease impact were collected directly from the patient. We analyzed here the socio-economical impact of HS in comparison to the 3 others chronic inflammatory dermatosis at inclusion.

RESULTS

2042 patients were included: HS n=360, PS n=1026, AD n= 448, CU n=208, whose main characteristics are detailed in Table 1. For HS patients, mean IHS4 score at inclusion was 13.7+16.7, with 86% patients having moderate to severe HS according to IHS4. Numerically more HS patients were single (47.2%) compared to patients with PS, AD and CU (27.2%), and also compared to the AD cohort (38.2%) which mean age was the closest to HS cohort (35.5+-12.6 years). The highest degree for 37.6% of HS patients was GCSE, BTEC, NVQ or A level, compared to 31.7% of PS, AD and CU patients. More HS patients were unemployed (11.9 versus 6.9%) and benefit from supplementary universal health care insurance (15.3%) (accorded to people with the lowest income) than PS, AD and CU patients (7.3%). The number of sick leave days the last 6 months in HS cohort was 45.1+-125.8 compared to 26.3+-48.6 in PS, AD and CU patients. In HS cohort, socio-economical impact was comparable according to the age and to the age at HS diagnosis. The impact of HS on social relationships, choice of clothes, sexual life was greater for women compared to men. The impact of HS on familial and professional life, physical pain, social relationships, sport activities, work, and sexual life was greater in case of genital involvement of HS.

CONCLUSION

Our study illustrate the high socio-economical impact of HS compared to PS, AD and CU. We identified factors associated with increased impact, such as female gender and genital localisation of HS lesions.

	Hidradenitis suppurativa (n=360)	Psoriasis, atopic dermatitis and chronic urticaria (n=1682)	
Mean age +- SD (years)	32.8+- 9.9	41.0 +- 12.9	p<0.001
Female sex (%)	61.9	48.7	P<0.001
Mean impact on professional life +- SD*	6.5+-2.8	5.7+-3.2	p<0.001
Mean impact on familial life +-SD*	6.1+-2.9	5.3+-3.0	p<0.001
Hospitalisation for chronic dermatosis the last 6 months (%)	27.9	8.2	p<0.001
Significant impact of physical pain on domestic or professional activities (%)	60.2	38.2	p<0.001
Significant impact of health status on social relationships (%)	40.3	26.9	p<0.001
Significant influence on the choice of clothes (%)	66.7	50.9	p<0.001
Significant impact on sport activities (%)	49.4	28.6	p<0.001
Significant impact on sexual life (%)	54.7	29.3	p<0.001
Moderate to severe impact on quality of life (%)	88.9	77.7	p<0.001
Sick leave days the last 6 months (%)	44.6	23.5	p<0.001

*Visual analogic scale (0 to 10)

Table 1. Characteristics of patients