

Use VAS in Measuring Quality of Life in Psoriatic Patients

Psoriasis is a disease severely affecting quality of life. In recent years, several methods have been introduced for measuring quality of life. This is very important in the future as resources for health care will be relatively smaller. Hence, it is important for dermatologists to visualize the suffering from disease in a simple manner. Many of the methods used today are cumbersome to use in clinical practice.

This is a summary of a paper recently published by Flytström et al. The full reference for the article is: *Flytström I, Stenberg B, Svensson Å, Bergbrant I-M. Patients' Visual Analogue Scale: A Useful Method for Assessing Psoriasis Severity. Acta Derm Venereol 2012; 92: 347–348.*

Flytström and co-workers investigated if a simple Visual Analogue Scale (VAS) could act as a simple way to measure quality of life. They investigated Dermatology Life Quality Index (DLQI), Psoriasis Area and Severity Index (PASI) and VAS in 68 patients with psoriasis.

There was a significant correlation between VAS and DLQI and PASI, respectively. The authors conclude that VAS may be used

as a supplement to PASI and DLQI for assessing quality of life for psoriasis patients. Using VAS is simple and can easily be used in everyday practice.

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