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1716 Health-related quality of life in Sjögren's syndrome

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Sjögren's syndrome (SS) is an autoimmune disease of the exocrine glands, notably the salivary and lacrimal glands, that affects 3-4% of the adult population. The objective was to measure health-related quality of life (HRQOL) in SS patients using a disease specific dry mouth questionnaire, the oral health impact profile (OHIP-49), and the SF-36 instrument. 51 SS patients, 26 primary (1°) and 25 secondary (2°) cases, diagnosed at least 1 year previously took part. 29 age and gender-matched controls also completed the questionnaires. The number of subjects reporting negative impacts for the 7 dry mouth questions and individual OHIP statements and sub-scales were calculated. SF36 data were transformed and sub-scale scores calculated. Chi-square/ANOVA tests were used to compare differences among respondents reporting negative impacts for dry mouth-related questions, OHIP statements and OHIP and SF36 sub-scale scores, between groups. There were significant differences in 3 dry mouth scores (general feeling of dry mouth, dry mouth during eating/speaking, sticky saliva), $p < 0.05$. The mean OHIP sub-scale scores were generally quite low with no statistical difference between groups. There were significant differences in mean SF36 sub-scale scores (physical function, role-physical, general health) between groups ($p < 0.05$). There were no differences in dry mouth and SF-36 scores between 1° and 2° SS cases. HRQOL was significantly impaired in SS patients, with similar impact in 1° and 2° cases. OHIP appeared to lack the sensitivity to discriminate oral HRQOL between groups. Supported by CRCG-HKU

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