OBJECTIVES: Chronic pain is a common and universal phenomenon that appears at all ages and in all populations. It has a substantially impact on the quality of patients’ daily life as well as their physical and mental function. The objective of this study is to examine associations among patient characteristics, self-reported depression, vitality and the obesity and weight-loss quality-of-life (OWL-QOL) instruments in a randomized cross-over study of Pompe disease patients and healthy controls.

METHODS: A prospective, randomized, cross-over, investigator-initiated study comparing 6 months of enzyme replacement therapy (ERT) with a 6 month period without ERT to patients with Pompe disease. The primary endpoint was health-related quality of life (HRQoL) via SF-36 Health Survey was measured every 3 months in a total of 6 months. The SF-36 dimensions and summary scores were converted into a single SF-6D utility score using the Dutch value set. The final model included the following covariates: patient demographics, parameters related to the disease, and treatments.

RESULTS: Baseline data were available for 341 patients with a mean age of 44.2 years (SD: 10.7), 83% of which were female. The percentage of total fat was more significantly associated with the OWL-QOL total score. Based on Spearman’s correlations, the OWL-QOL total score was significantly correlated with gender (r = 0.233, p < 0.001), total fat (r = 0.264, p < 0.001), BMI (r = 0.455, p < 0.001), and waist circumference (r = 0.455, p < 0.001). In the final model (R2 = 0.36), vitality (β = 0.55, p < 0.001), female gender (β = -0.71, p = 0.026) and race/ethnicity (β = 12.3, African American versus Other, β = 1.08 White versus Other, p = 0.002 for both comparisons), but not percentage of total fat, were significantly associated with the OWL-QOL total score. CONCLUSIONS: The OWL-QOL was significantly associated with patient gender, BMI, and vitality. The percentage of total fat was more significantly associated with the OWL-QOL total score than other obesity measures, including BMI.

PSY45
IMPACT OF LUPUS ON CAREER CHOICES AND WORK PRODUCTIVITY IN FIVE EUROPEAN COUNTRIES: RESULTS FROM THE LUPUS EUROPEAN ONLINE (LEO) SURVEY

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OBJECTIVES: A previous survey distributed in Europe and the US found that lupus affects patients’ career, physical well-being and everyday living. The LEO survey was developed to explore further the effect of lupus on work productivity, fatigue and health-related quality of life (HRQoL) in Europe. METHODS: The survey had four sections. Section 1 included patient-developed questions on demographics, lupus diagnosis and impact of lupus on work and career. Sections 2–4 used lupus-specific and reported outcome measures (Work Productivity and Activity Impairment Questionnaire, Lupus V2.0, fatigue (lupus-specific Fatigue Severity Scale) and HRQoL (LupusQoL). The survey was available May–August 2010 and in five European languages. RESULTS: A total of 1562 patients with self-reported lupus completed the survey (France (n = 139), Germany (n = 537), Italy (n = 357), Spain (n = 357), and the UK (n = 267)). Most were female (93%, 1440/1557) and aged 26–55 years (81%, 1253/1550). In section 1, over two-thirds (70%, 1028/1475) of participants reported that lupus affected their career; in France, (79%, 199/252); lowest France, Italy (73%, 139/190) and Spain (65%, 213/331). Of these, 31% (288/928) now work flexibly, 29% (265/928) applied for sick leave, 24% (219/928) applied for social or disability allowance and 17% (156/928) changed career. Of those who reduced work hours, almost a quarter (23%, 150/646) had to reduce by > 75%, (17%, 111/646). For those who continued to work, participants reported missing an average of 13% (SD = 24.2) of their working time because of lupus. At work, productivity was reduced by an average of 40% (SD = 25.8). Overall, an average of 43% (SD = 27.1) of total work hours available to participants was lost due to lupus. Ability to carry out non-work activities such as housework, childcare and household activities was, on average, impaired by 56% (SD = 26.7). CONCLUSIONS: Lupus diminishes European patients’ likelihood of working and their productivity while at work. These findings emphasise the need for improved management of lupus.