same size. As a first step, regression analysis in the full sample was performed, where VAS assessment (0–100) of actual health state constituted the dependent variable and dichotomized (some problem/considerable problem) answers on the five dimensions the independent. After excluding outliers, (standardized [z-] residuals <-2.5 or >2.5), ten pairs of analyses were performed, excluding one part of the sample at the time. From the first analysis in each pair, outliers were excluded and the second analysis was performed. The coefficients gained in the second analysis were used to calculate Jackknife estimates of “true” coefficients.

**RESULTS:** The model estimated constant of 89.7 and coefficients for each dimension assessed as having “some problem” (self care: −15.89; mobility: −10.30; usual activities: −9.52; depression: −7.87; pain/discomfort: −7.49) and for having “considerable problem” with pain/discomfort: −6.00; usual activities: −8.09; depression: −33.66 and on any of dimensions: −10.18. Interactions did not increase explanatory value of the analysis.

**CONCLUSIONS:** Based on this model, the most important determinant of health status value (utility) for the Swedish population is depression, followed by problems with mobility and self-care. Pain/discomfort is the least important, regardless of the magnitude of the problems were assessed.

**PEN4**

**GENERIC AND DISEASE—SENSITIVE INSTRUMENTS SEEM TO MEASURE QUALITY OF LIFE IN A SIMILAR WAY: RESULTS OF THE EQ-5D AND QOL-AGHDA SURVEY IN THE SWEDISH POPULATION**

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**OBJECTIVES:** To assess to what extent QoL results obtained through a generic instrument (EQ-5D) correlate with those captured by a disease-sensitive measure (Qol-Assessment of Growth Hormone Deficiency in Adults). **METHODS:** Data were collected through a mailing survey to a random sample (n = 2990) of the Swedish population. The questionnaire comprised EQ-5D and QoL-AGHDA. QoL-AGHDA is a 25-item measure that elicits yes/no responses to personal statements describing problems that characterize aspects of HrQoL in growth hormone deficiency. A high QoL-AGHDA score denotes poor HrQoL. EQ-5D is a well-known and widely recognized generic instrument. (EuroQol Group, 1990). The response rate was 65% and complete data on EQ-5D and QoL-AGHDA were obtained from 1663 (48.2% males; mean age 49.5, range 18–85 years) respondents.

**RESULTS:** For EQ-5D dimensions: 11% respondents reported problems with mobility, 2% with self care, 9% usual activities, 46% pain/discomfort and 30% anxiety/depression. All results were weighted to represent the Swedish population profile with respect to age and gender. The mean EQ-5D VAS score was 80 (SD 17.3) and the mean QoL-AGHDA score was 3.9 (SD 4.8). There was a significant correlation between QoL-AGHDA scores and EQ-5D VAS (r = −0.56, p < 0.001). **CONCLUSIONS:** These results show that there is strong correlation between results generated by a disease-sensitive and a generic measure, and thus suggest that using generic instruments for QoL assessments in specific conditions yield reliable results that could be employed for pharmacoeconomic evaluations.

**PEN5**

**EVALUATION OF THE ASSOCIATION BETWEEN HEIGHT AND HEALTH-RELATED UTILITY (EQSDindex)**

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There is conflicting evidence about whether reduced height results in ill health. **OBJECTIVE:** The objective of this study was to determine if there exists an association between height and health-related utility (EQSDindex). **METHODS:** This was a retrospective study of two large health data sources that recorded height and other anthropomorphic parameters along with the EQSDindex. The first a national survey in the general population (English Health Survey, 1996), the second an ongoing study to characterise outcome in hospital treated patients (the Health Outcomes Data Repository [HODaR]). Both of these sources had large numbers of observations, thus dealing with the wide variability in factors leading to ill health potentially confounding or masking any association. **RESULTS:** There was a direct association between height and the EQSDindex. This association was logarithmic; the gradient was more marked in shorter subjects. The association was significant. On average, a 10cm increase in height resulted in 0.01 more EQSDindex units in men and 0.02 in women (standardized for age and ethnicity). This association appeared to be independent of confounding factors such as body mass, where shorter people had in all BMI categories lower height utility than taller people. An increase in height from the ninth centile to the eighth equated to a utility gain of 0.021 in men and 0.025 in women. A shift from the third centile to the second equated to a utility gain of 0.007 in men.