OBJECTIVES: Binge Eating Disorder (BED) recently moved, with slight modification, to the Eating Disorder category within the Revised Diagnostic Classification of Mental Disorders (ICD-11). This is the first time that BMI (Body Mass Index) has been removed from the diagnostic criteria. BED is associated with an increased number of days of role impairment. We report here the associations of DSM-V defined BED, work productivity and activity impairment and self-reported family life, and family-related impairment.

METHODS: An Internet survey of a representative sample of US adults, conducted in fall, 2013, included questions related to the presence of BED, health care seeking behavior, and self-reported work and family life impairment. The survey sample included 15,237 adults.

RESULTS: Among 4,820 respondents (31%), 34% (5.5%) participated in the full DSM-V criteria for BED, and 4.5% met full DSM-V criteria for BED. The remaining respondents, 25, reported overeating but not meeting any of the criteria for BED. The mean [SD] impairment on work/school, social, and family life domains was 0.03 [0.09], 0.04 [0.10], and 0.02 [0.08], respectively. Patients with BED had a statistically significant higher work productivity impairment and self-reported family life impairment compared to those without BED.

CONCLUSIONS: BED is associated with significant work productivity and family life impairment.