with the PLSF showed a subjective improvement in personal well-being for 65% of the patients after 1 and 2 years of GH treatment. Visits to the doctor in the previous year (from 9.1 ± 1.4 to 3.4 ± 1), days in hospital (from 7.9 ± 2.6 to 1.6 ± 1.5) and days of sick leave (from 26.4 ± 9.8 to 2.2 ± 1.1) significantly decreased during GH therapy. Leisure-time physical activity significantly improved during therapy, whereas satisfaction with physical activity improved only in females. Another gender difference relates to the need for assistance with daily activities, which remained low and constant in males, but seemed to worsen in females. CONCLUSION: Data obtained so far confirm that GH replacement therapy results in a significant long-term improvement of both QoL and general well being and reduction of HCU in the Netherlands. Moreover, after two years of GH therapy both QoL and HCU levels become comparable to the general Dutch population.

DEVELOPMENT OF THE GROWTH HORMONE INJECTION QUESTIONNAIRE (GHIQ) FOR ADOLESCENTS
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OBJECTIVES: We report the development of an instrument to assess feelings about self-injection of growth hormone (GH) in adolescents with growth disorders. METHODS: Adolescents (age 11–19 years) in 2 cohorts (UK N = 74 and USA N = 98) completed a 10-item GH questionnaire, as well as health-related quality of life (HRQOL), functional status scales, self-control, and self-esteem scales to assess external validity. The GH and HRQOL questionnaires were repeated in 2–4 weeks. RESULTS: The GH questionnaire contains 10 items in 2 subscales (feelings, injection issues) and a total summary score, with higher scores indicating better acceptance of GH. Internal consistency reliabilities were a = 0.77 Summary Score, a = 0.68 Feelings, and a = 0.78 Injection Issues, with overall test-retest reliability 0.72, and no floor or ceiling effects. Significant summary score correlations with external validity scales were 0.42 HRQOL, 0.34 functional status, 0.25 self-control. Mean summary scores did not differ significantly by cohort, age, gender, or diagnosis (range 4.0–4.4 points). The Injection Issues component was significantly associated with all VSP-AM subscales and total score (all p < 0.01), whereas the Feelings component was significantly correlated with self-esteem, well-being, physical health and the total score (all p < 0.01) as well as with teachers (p < 0.05). CONCLUSIONS: The GH Injection Questionnaire is both a reliable and valid measure of attitudes for adolescents with growth disorders. It measures different constructs than other instruments. Adolescents who were more comfort-