Quality of life in young patients with Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis (JIA) and Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD): preliminary results (MiPedQoL)

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Introduction

The Multi-informant Pediatric Quality of Life study (MiPedQoL) of University Hospital Ghent aims to explore the general and disease-specific quality of life in children with chronic diseases by self reports and parental proxy reports. This part of the study focuses on patients with JIA and IBD in particular and investigates the correlations between QoL and psychological outcome factors.

Material and methods

Participants

N = 57 children
N = 35 parents (24 mothers, 11 fathers)

Child age (SD) 13.35 (2.95)
Child Sex
Female: 65 % (N = 37)
Male: 35 % (N = 20)

Diagnosis
JIA: N = 37
IBD: N = 20

Results

- The PedsQL™ 4.0 Generic Core shows significant lower QoL scores for all subscales in the JIA groups compared with healthy children.
- In the IBD group we found no significant difference between the IBD sample and the healthy sample on the PedsQL™ Generic Core and the Fatigue Module. However, our IBD patients showed significantly higher scores on both PedsQL™ scales compared with children with JIA and other chronic diseases.
- We identified high significant positive correlations between the PedsQL™ Core scales and the Rheumatology Module, and also between the PedsQL Core scales and the SDQ.
- Future research should investigate in a larger sample and by means of longitudinal measurements in order to further explore protective and risk factors in JIA and IBD pediatric patients.

Conclusion