OBJECTIVES: Hidradenitis suppurativa (HS) is a chronic inflammatory disease characterized by recurrent, painful, deep lesions in the axillary, perineal and inginal regions. The disease is associated with a high impact on patients’ health-related quality of life (HRQoL). The aim of this study was to elucidate the impact of HS on patients’ HRQoL in Finland.

MATERIALS AND METHODS: The objective of this study was to elucidate the impact of HS on HRQoL. To determine the impact of HS on HRQoL, a dermatology-specific (DLQI) and two condition-specific instruments (HSIA and HSSA) were used for statistical analyses. Patients were also asked about diagnostic delay, HS-related surgeries, and healthcare resource use.

RESULTS: The mean age of patients was 42.4 years. Half (50%) of the patients had Hurley stage I, 42.3% had stage II, and 7.6% had stage III. The mean DLQI score was 8.83 (SD 2.79), the mean HSIA score was 3.35 (SD 2.39), and the mean HSSA score was 2.67 (SD 0.44). The difference was statistically significant between men and women, with higher DLQI, HSIA, and HSSA scores (DLQI, p=0.001; HSIA, p=0.004; HSSA, p=0.04).

CONCLUSIONS: The DLQI score, calculated with reversed question 15, was 3.04 (SD 2.74; men 1.99 (SD 0.93) for male patients and 4.27 (SD 2.76) for female patients (p=0.004) (Figure 4). The difference was statistically significant between men and women, with women reporting higher scores (p=0.001) (Figure 5). Patients with higher Hurley stage had statistically significantly higher DLQI, HSIA, and HSSA scores (DLQI, p=0.001; HSIA, p=0.008; HSSA, p=0.04).

COMPARISON WITH DLQI: correlation coefficients for HSIA and HSSA were 0.92 and 0.61. (SD 2.39): 4.21 (SD 2.64) for female patients and 1.99 (SD 0.93) for male patients. The HSQoL inventory (HSIA) was developed with reversed question 15.* All patients completed the DLQI, HSIA, and HSSA.

CONCLUSIONS: The difference was statistically significant between men and women, with higher DLQI, HSIA, and HSSA scores (DLQI, p=0.001; HSIA, p=0.004; HSSA, p=0.04).

DISCUSSIONS: The authors wish to thank Julia Turunen, PhD, for data management services and Teppo Huttunen, MSc, of 4Pharma for conducting the statistical analyses. The authors also wish to thank Jenni Ollikonen, registered nurse, for her assistance in this study. Marta Sitja, PhD, Brian Calimlim, DFPh, and Nita Säikänen, MSc, registered nurses of AbbVie and Rachel Schulz, MA, of Complete Publication Solutions, LLC (assistance funded by AbbVie), are acknowledged for their valuable input during the review of the poster. This is an open access article licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivatives 4.0 International License (CC BY-NC-ND 4.0).