A Systematic Literature Review of Healthcare Burden in Patients With Behçet’s Disease

Orit Solà-Morales, Sandhya Mehta, Sarah Ronnebaum, Erin Hart, Diben Patel, Tara Nazareth, Angela Paudula

Health Institute for Technology Transfer (HITT), Barcelona, Spain; Celgene Corporation, Summit, NJ, USA; PharmInt International, Bethesda, MD, USA; Rheumatology Department of Lucania, San Carlo Hospital of Potenza and Madonna delle Grazie Hospital of Matera, Potenza, Italy

INTRODUCTION

Behçet’s disease (BD) is a rare systemic vasculitis disorder characterized by recurrent oral and genital ulcers, skin lesions, ocular inflammation, and vascular abnormalities. Recent research shows that BD is a multi-system disease that can significantly impact quality of life (QoL) and may lead to increased damage and significant mortality.

METHODS

• PICOS Selection Criteria
  - Population: adults diagnosed with BD
  - Intervention: all BD treatments analyzed
  - Comparator: healthy controls, including emotional issues
  - Study design: randomized clinical trials, observational studies, and case series
  - Outcomes: clinical burden (i.e., symptom prevalence, presence of comorbidities), QoL, and patient-reported outcomes
  - Study setting: all studies performed in patients with BD

RESULTS

Conclusions

Among the total of 27 studies, 19 studies reported an oral ulcer prevalence ranging from 17% to 60% (median: 49.8%). Thirty-eight studies reported on treatment patterns among patients with BD, with 24 studies reporting on treatment patterns among patients with BD. Forty-two studies reported humanistic outcomes among patients with BD, including symptom prevalence, presence of comorbidities, and QoL. This is the first SLR to comprehensively describe the clinical and humanistic burden of patients with BD. This review provides a summary of trends in the clinical and humanistic burden of patients with BD, including symptom prevalence, presence of comorbidities, and QoL, across multiple domains. This review is important for healthcare providers, patients, and policymakers, as it highlights the significant impact of BD on QoL and identifies gaps in knowledge that require further research.

CONCLUSIONS

• Patients with BD experience an increased symptom burden, comorbidity burden, and emotional burden of illness compared with healthy controls.
• Patients with BD experience increased symptom burden, comorbidity burden, and emotional burden of illness compared with patients with other chronic inflammatory conditions, such as rheumatoid arthritis and ankylosing spondylitis.
• Findings confirm that BD is a highly prevalent, often undertreated condition, and needs a multidisciplinary approach to manage.
• The current review shows that BD patients experience an increased symptom burden, comorbidity burden, and emotional burden of illness compared with healthy controls. This review is important for healthcare providers, patients, and policymakers, as it highlights the significant impact of BD on QoL and identifies gaps in knowledge that require further research.