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IgA Nephropathy: A Real-World Comparison Between Disease Severity, Symptom Burden, and Treatment Satisfaction Reported by Patients and Nephrologists

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Conclusions

- Although there was a good level of agreement between nephrologists and patients on the severity of immunoglobulin A nephropathy (IgAN), nephrologists under-reported patients' symptoms – notably nausea/vomiting, appetite loss, and fatigue
 - These symptoms are not specific to IgAN, but they can decrease patients' quality of life
- Satisfaction with current treatment also differed in around one-third of cases
- Cultural differences may impact symptom perception and reporting, as evidenced by differences between nephrologists and patients across different countries/regions
- This study highlights the need for an improvement in communication between nephrologists and their patients. This may lead to better disease management, treatment, and subsequently, a better quality of life for patients with IgAN

Results

- Data were collected for 991 patients with IgAN, where matched nephrologist and patient-reported forms were completed
 - The mean (standard deviation [SD]) patient age was 42.1 (13.8) years, and 57% were male
- Nephrologists and patients reported their perceived severity of disease on a scale of mild, moderate, and severe (n=981) (Figure 1)
 Nephrologists and patients agreed on level of severity for 77% of patients (US: 82%, EU5: 77%, China: 78%, and Japan: 70%)

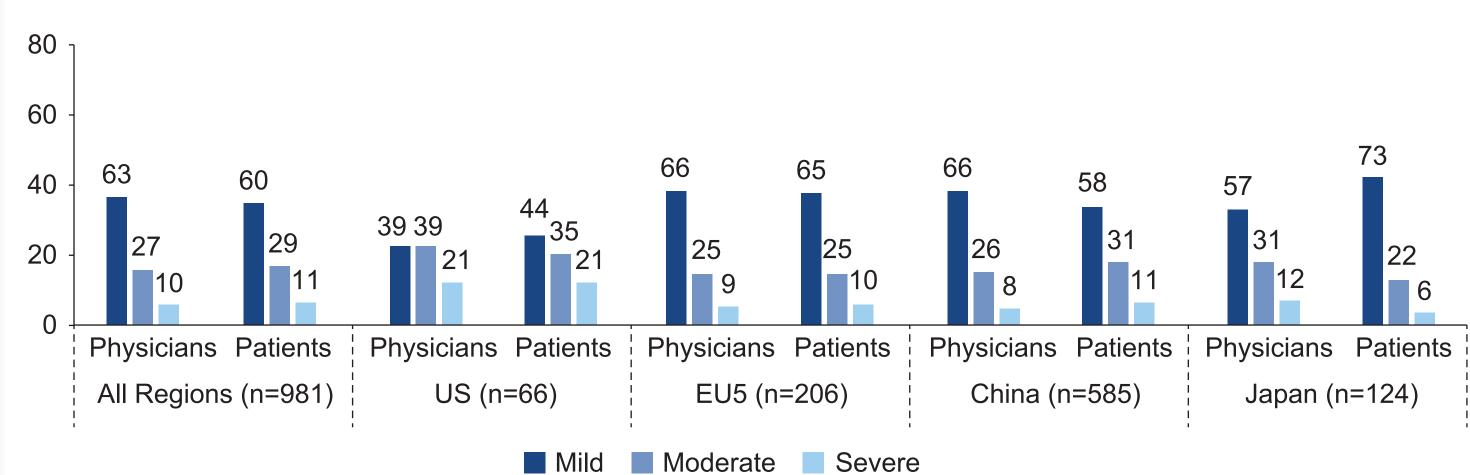
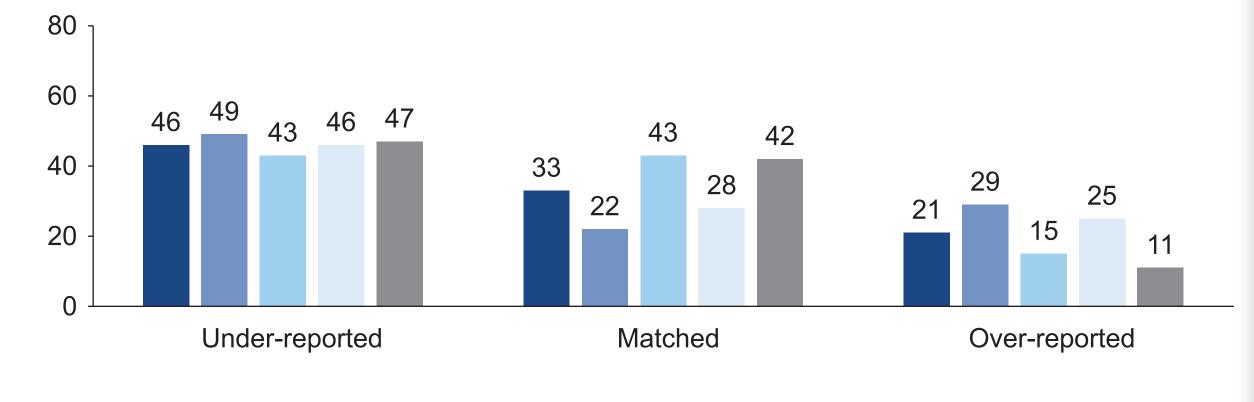
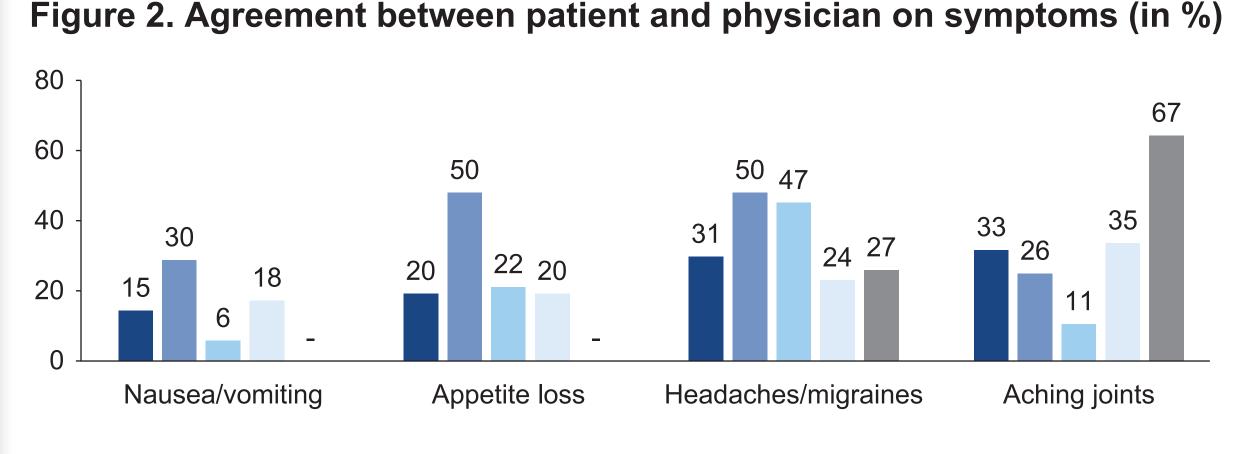


Figure 1. Physician and patient-reported severity of disease at the time of survey (in %)





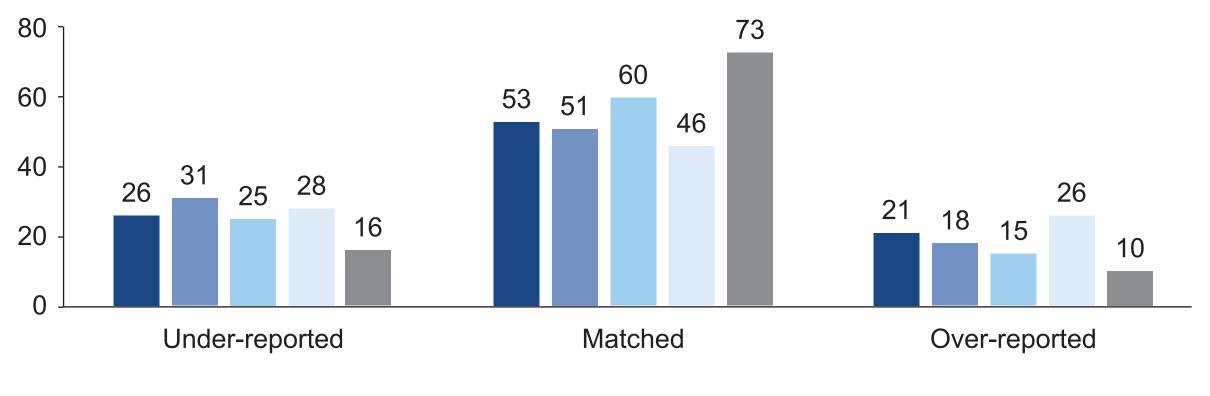
All Regions (n=991) US (n=68) EU5 (n=213) China (n=585) Japan (n=125)



All Regions (n=961) US (n=62) EU5 (n=196) China (n=584) Japan (n=119)

Abbreviations: EU5: European Union Five (France, Germany, Italy, Spain, United Kingdom); IgAN: immunoglobulin A nephropathy; US: United States

Figure 4. Physician vs patient reporting of pain in IgAN (in %)



All Regions (n=988) US (n=68) EU5 (n=211) China (n=585) Japan (n=124)

Introduction

- IgAN is the most common form of primary glomerulonephritis worldwide, with an estimated annual incidence of ~25 per million people¹
- Patients with IgAN present with many clinical manifestations, including hematuria, proteinuria, and hypertension^{2,3}

Aim

 This analysis aimed to compare the perceptions of disease severity, symptom burden, and treatment satisfaction between patients living with IgAN and their treating nephrologists in the United States (US), Europe, and Asia

Results (cont'd)

- The level of nephrologists' awareness of patient-reported symptoms was analyzed (Figure 2)
 - Where patients reported nausea/vomiting, it was not recognized by nephrologists in 85% of cases
 - Similarly, there was non-agreement between patients and physicians for appetite loss (80%), headaches/migraines (69%), and aching joints (67%)
- Patients and nephrologists were asked to score the patients' fatigue and pain on a scale from 0 (none) to 10 (worst possible)
- Fatigue was under-reported by nephrologists in comparison to what patients

Method

- Data were collected from the Adelphi IgAN Disease Specific Programme⁴ (DSP)[™], a point-in-time survey of IgAN-treating nephrologists and their consulting IgAN patients, conducted in the US, Europe (EU5; France, Germany, Italy, Spain, and the United Kingdom), China, and Japan between June and October 2021
- Nephrologists completed structured online patient record forms for successive patients presenting with IgAN
- Patients voluntarily completed questionnaires that corresponded with the nephrologists' records
- Both the nephrologists' and the patient-reported data included demographics, disease severity, IgAN signs and symptoms, and treatment satisfaction
- Based on their responses, the agreement between physician and patient was calculated; if they provided the same answer to a question, it was considered that they were in agreement. This analysis reported the agreement percentage for various outcomes

- reported in 46% of 991 cases, with a mean (SD) score difference of 2.47 (1.46), and over-reported in 21% of 991 cases, with a mean (SD) score difference of 1.95 (1.27) (**Figure 3**)
- Pain was under-reported by nephrologists in 26% of 988 cases, with a mean (SD) score difference of 2.24 (1.44), and over-reported in 21% of 988 cases, with a mean (SD) score difference of 2.06 (1.48) (Figure 4)
- Nephrologists and patients reported their satisfaction with the patients' current IgAN treatment as satisfied, neither satisfied nor dissatisfied, or dissatisfied (n=982)
 - There was agreement on treatment satisfaction between approximately 65% of the nephrologists and the patients
 - The percentage agreement varied across countries US: 77% of 66 patients, EU5: 76% of 211 patients, China: 61% of 585 patients, and Japan: 58% of 120 patients

Disclosures

Data collection for the DSP was undertaken by Adelphi Real World as part of an independent survey. Novartis is one of multiple subscribers to the DSP.

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