WHAT IS SPASTICITY?

Spasticity is one of the most common and disabling conditions associated with many neurological diseases in adults (stroke, traumatic brain, etc.). It is characterized by velocity-dependent muscle hyperactivity.

Spasticity induces multi-level disability related to muscle stiffness, including impaired walking and hand use, pain, disfigurement and contractures.

Management of this condition includes pharmacological intervention and rehabilitation with the aim of allowing patients to achieve their goals. The most effective pharmacological treatment is Botulinum toxin (BoNT) injections.

THE SURVEY

An international survey examining patients' and caregivers' perspectives

**Location**

615 participants were included in the survey (427 patients; 188 caregivers)

**Objective**

Assess the burden of spasticity on patients' lives (patients and caregivers' points of view) and the impact of Botulinum toxin type A treatment (BoNT-A injections)

THE BURDEN OF SPASTICITY

Spasticity influences patients' daily lives

At least 88% of patients experienced difficulties in at least one aspect of daily living:

- Carrying something: 98%
- Walking: 97%
- Driving: 96%

44% of the patients do not work or work part-time because of their condition

29% of caregivers do not work or work part-time to take care of the patient

Patients' quality of life is severely impacted by spasticity

Overall quality of life is impacted for almost all the patients, and greatly impacted for 50% of them.

Regarding the impacted areas of life, sexual life, self-esteem and mental-health are the most affected.

Burden of receiving BoNT-A injections

- 78% of patients had to take time off from employment
- 73% of patients reported issues with BoNT-A treatment, (such as inconvenience of appointments, frequency of injections)
- 77% of patients reported that BoNT-A injections represent a financial burden (transportation costs being the most common)

LONG-LASTING EFFECTS OF BONT-A TREATMENT WOULD IMPACT LIVES

- More than 86% of respondents (patients and caregivers) felt that long-lasting effects of BoNT-A treatment would beneficially impact their lives

PERCEIVED BENEFITS

of long-lasting symptom relief

Improved quality of life

- Availability of appointments
- Longer periods of improved mobility
- Less worrying about symptoms
- Fewer logistical constraints
- More self-confidence
- Reduced financial burden
- Improved psychological well-being

94% of patients reported improved overall life satisfaction with Botulinum toxin A injections thanks to reduced muscle spasms

82% - 96% of patients reported improvements for daily tasks and quality of life domains (muscle spasms, anxiety, personal relationships, sexual life...)

IMPROVEMENTS due to BoNT-A treatment

BURDEN OF SPASTICITY AND IMPACT OF BOTULINUM NEUROTOXIN THERAPY

Spasticity influences patients' daily lives

References: