**Table 1. Sociodemographic, physical and psychosomatic characteristics of the study sample (continuous) (n = 203)**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Parameter** | **Value** | **Q1; Q3 / 95% CI** | **Minimal value** | **Maximal value** |
| Age, years, median | 45.00 | 30.00; 60.00 | 18.00 | 85.00 |
| Physical parameter |
| Body mass index, kg/m2, median | 24.00 | 21.00; 28.00 | 15.00 | 44.00 |
| Psychosomatic parameters |
| Stigmatization, PSQ score, median | 15.00 | 9.00; 27.00 | 0.00 | 58.00 |
| Perceived stress level, PSS-10 score, mean ± SD | 18.54 ± 6.98 | 17.58–19.51 | 0.00 | 35.00 |
| Depression, PHQ-2 score, median | 2.00 | 0.00; 3.00 | 0.00 | 6.00 |
| Anxiety, GAD-2 score, median | 2.00 | 1.00; 4.00 | 0.00 | 8.00 |
| Anxiety and depression, PHQ-4 score, median | 4.00 | 2.00; 6.00 | 0.00 | 12.00 |
| Dysmorphophobia, DSQ scale, median | 5.00 | 3.00; 10.00 | 0.00 | 21.00 |

CI, confidence interval; DCQ, Dysmorphic Concern Questionnaire; GAD-2, Generalized Anxiety Disorder-2; PHQ-2, Two Item Patient Health Questionnaire; PHQ-4, Four Item Patient Health Questionnaire; PSQ, Perceived Stigmatization Questionnaire; PSS-10, Perceived Stress Scale-10

**Table 2. Sociodemographic and psychosomatic characteristics of the study sample (categorical) (n = 203)**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Parameters** | **Patient numbers** | **95% CI** |
| **n** | **%** |
| Sociodemographic parameters |
| Gender: |
| Male | 57 | 28.1 | 22.0–34.8 |
| Female | 146 | 71.9 | 65.2–78.0 |
| Educational level: |
| Secondary | 53 | 26.5 | 20.5–33.2 |
| High school not completed | 97 | 48.5 | 41.4–55.7 |
| Higher | 50 | 25.0 | 19.2–31.6 |
| Marital status: |
| Married | 58 | 28.7 | 22.6–35.5 |
| Unmarried | 144 | 71.3 | 64.5–77.4 |
| Occupation: |  |  |  |
| Not known | 21 | 10.3 | 6.5–15.4 |
| Retired | 54 | 26.6 | 20.7–33.2 |
| Current sick leave | 4 | 2.0 | 0.5–5.0 |
| Student | 23 | 11.3 | 7.3–16.5 |
| Occupationally active | 101 | 49.8 | 42.7–56.8 |
| Psychosomatic parameters |
| Depression: |  |  |  |
| No | 134 | 66.0 | 59.0–72.5 |
| Yes | 69 | 34.0 | 27.5–41.0 |
| Anxiety: |  |  |  |
| No | 129 | 63.5 | 56.5–70.2 |
| Yes | 74 | 36.5 | 29.8–43.5 |
| Dysmorphophobia: |  |  |  |
| No | 175 | 86.2 | 80.7–90.6 |
| Yes | 28 | 13.8 | 9.4–19.3 |

CI, confidence interval

**Table 3. Descriptive statistics of variables depending on the itch clusters**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Parameter / category** | **Itch clusters** | **p value** |
| **Cluster 1 (1)** | **Cluster 2 (2)** | **Cluster 3 (3)** | **Cluster 4 (4)** |
| Sociodemographic characteristics |
| Educational level, n (%): |  |  |  |  |  |
| Secondary | 17 (20.3) | 16 (37.2) | 12 (34.3) | 10 (20.9) | 0.070 |
| High school not completed | 37 (46.8) | 17 (39.5) | 21 (57.1) | 23 (53.5) |
| Higher | 26 (32.9) | 10 (23.3) | 3 (8.6) | 11 (25.6) |
| Marital status, n (%): |  |  |  |  |  |
| Married | 24 (30.4) | 13 (29.5) | 7 (20.0) | 14 (31.1) | 0.653 |
| Unmarried | 55 (69.6) | 31 (70.5) | 28 (80.0) | 31 (68.9) |
| Occupation, n (%): |  |  |  |  |  |
| Not known | 7 (8.9) | 7 (15.6) | 3 (8.6) | 4 (9.1) | 0.124 |
| Retired | 16 (20.3) | 18 (40.0) | 8 (22.9) | 12 (27.3) |
| Current sick leave | 1 (1.3) | 0 (0.0) | 0 (0.0) | 3 (6.8) |
| Student | 11 (13.9) | 3 (6.7) | 3 (8.6) | 6 (13.6) |
| Occupationally active | 44 (55.7) | 17 (37.8) | 21 (60.0) | 19 (43.2) |
| Somatic characteristics |
| BMI, kg/m2, median [Q1; Q3] | 24.00 [21.00; 27.00] | 24.00 [22.00; 30.00] | 26.00 [23.00; 29.00] | 24.00 [20.75; 27.75] | 0.192 |
| Psychosomatic characteristics |
| Anxiety and depression, PHQ-4 scores, median [Q1; Q3] | 3.00 [2.00; 4.00] | 3.00 [1.00; 5.00] | 5.00 [2.50; 7.50] | 8.00 [4.75; 10.00] | < 0.001 p3–1 = 0.007 p4–1 < 0.001 p3–2 = 0.045 p4–2 < 0.001 p4–3 = 0.044 |
| Depression, PHQ-2 scores, median [Q1; Q3] | 1.00 [0.00; 2.00] | 1.00 [0.00; 2.00] | 3.00 [1.00; 4.00] | 3.00 [2.00; 4.00] | < 0.001 p3–1 = 0.004 p4–1 < 0.001 p3–2 = 0.004 p4–2 < 0.001 |
| Anxiety, GAD-2 scores, median [Q1; Q3] | 2.00 [1.00; 2.00] | 2.00 [1.00; 4.00] | 3.00 [1.50; 4.00] | 4.00 [2.00; 6.00] | < 0.001 p4–1 < 0.001 p4–2 < 0.001 p4–3 = 0.017 |
| Perceived stress levels, PSS-10 scores, mean ± SD | 17.49 ± 6.94 | 16.27 ± 7.35 | 20.20 ± 6.08 | 21.43 ± 6.24 | < 0.001 p1–4 = 0.012 p2–4 = 0.002 |
| Dysmorphophobia, DCQ scores, median [Q1; Q3] | 5.00 [2.00; 8.00] | 5.00 [3.00; 8.00] | 5.00 [4.00; 10.50] | 11.00 [3.00; 15.25] | < 0.001 p4–1 < 0.001 p4–2 = 0.013 |
| Stigmatization, PSQ scores, median [Q1; Q3] | 11.00 [8.00; 18.00] | 16.00 [11.00; 28.00] | 17.00 [8.00; 29.00] | 26.50 [14.00; 34.75] | < 0.001 p4–1 < 0.001 |
| Depression, n (%): |  |  |  |  | < 0.001 p1–3 < 0.001 p1–4 < 0.001 p2–3 = 0.004 p2–4 < 0.001 |
| No | 65 (82.3) | 37 (82.2) | 17 (48.6) | 15 (34.1) |
| Yes | 14 (17.7) | 8 (17.8) | 18 (51.4) | 29 (65.9) |
| Anxiety, n (%): |  |  |  |  | < 0.001 p1–3 < 0.001 p1–4 < 0.001 p2–4 < 0.001 |
| No | 67 (84.8) | 32 (71.1) | 17 (48.6) | 13 (29.5) |
| Yes | 12 (15.2) | 13 (28.9) | 18 (51.4) | 31 (70.5) |
| Dysmorphophobia, n (%): |  |  |  |  | < 0.001 p1–4 < 0.001 p2–4 = 0.002 |
| No | 74 (93.7) | 43 (95.6) | 29 (82.9) | 29 (65.9) |
| Yes | 5 (6.3) | 2 (4.4) | 6 (17.1) | 15 (34.1) |

BMI, body mass index; DCQ, Dysmorphic Concern Questionnaire; GAD-2, Generalized Anxiety Disorder-2; PHQ-2, Two Item Patient Health Questionnaire; PHQ-4, Four Item Patient Health Questionnaire-4; PSQ, Perceived Stigmatization Questionnaire; PSS-10, Perceived Stress Scale-10

**Table 4. Results of multivariate ordered logistic regression**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Predictor** | **Coefficient (β)** | **SE** | **z** | **p** | **OR (95% CI)** |
| Perceived stigmatization level (PSQ) | 0.505 | 0.142 | 3.55 | < 0.001 | 1.66 (1.25–2.19) |
| Dysmorphophobia (DCQ) | 0.573 | 0.146 | 3.93 | < 0.001 | 1.77 (1.33–2.36) |
| Threshold values: |
| Clusters 1 *vs* 2–4 | -0.551 | 0.152 | -3.61 | < 0.001 | – |
| Clusters 2 *vs* 3–4 | 0.039 | 0.137 | 0.28 | 0.776 | – |
| Clusters 3 *vs* 4 | -0.002 | 0.159 | -0.015 | 0.988 | – |

CI, confidence interval; DCQ, Dysmorphic Concern Questionnaire; OR, odds ratio; PSQ, Perceived Stigmatization Questionnaire; SE, standard error