

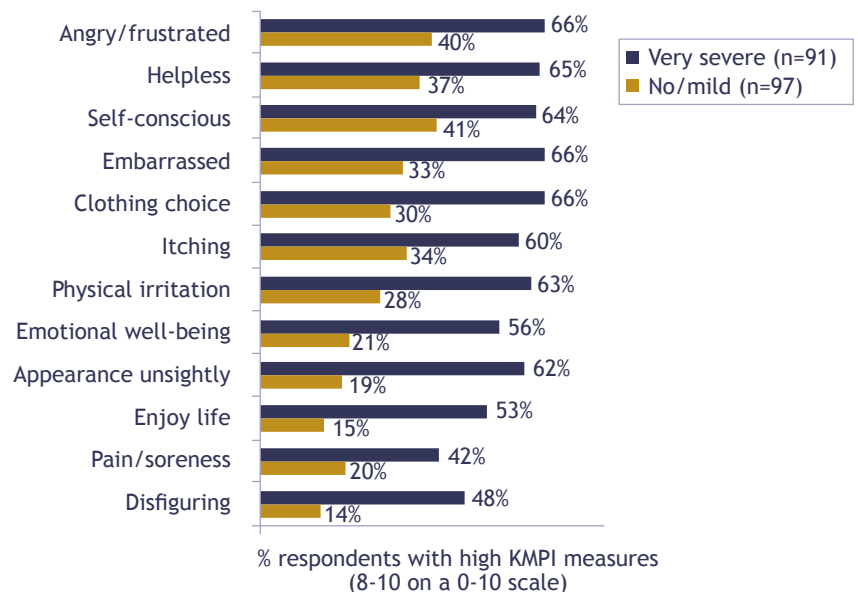
The National Psoriasis Foundation conducts survey panels twice each year to understand the experiences and opinions of people with psoriasis and psoriatic arthritis. These surveys help the Psoriasis Foundation gain awareness of the impact of these diseases in order to develop programs to meet the needs of the psoriasis community and to determine the need for additional research. Highlights from the Spring 2004 Survey Panel are below.

## Respondent demographics

- More than two-thirds of respondents (68%) have been diagnosed with psoriasis, while almost one-third of respondents (28%) have been diagnosed with both psoriasis and psoriatic arthritis
- One-quarter (26%) of respondents without a psoriatic arthritis diagnosis have joint pain or stiffness lasting more than 3 months
- More than three-quarters of respondents (82%) have moderate to severe psoriasis (>3 palms), determined by body surface area (BSA) where the palm of the hand equals 1 percent of the skin
- More than three-quarters (78%) of respondents with very severe psoriasis (>20 palms) continue to have very severe psoriasis with treatment
- Respondents were asked if they were diagnosed with diabetes, lupus, Crohn's disease, coronary artery disease or rheumatoid arthritis. More than three-quarters (83%) of respondents had no comorbidities. 7% were also diagnosed with diabetes and 8% were also diagnosed with rheumatoid arthritis

## Quality of life

- More than one-half of respondents report strong feelings of anger, helplessness, self-consciousness and embarrassment with their psoriasis (8-10 on a 0-10 scale)
- Two-thirds of respondents with very severe disease (>20 palms) feel angry and frustrated (8-10 on a 0-10 scale). More than one-third of respondents (40%) with mild disease (<3 palms) feel the same level of anger and frustration (8-10 on a 0-10 scale)



This graph illustrates Koo-Menter Psoriasis Index (KMPI) measures for respondents with very severe disease (>20 palms) compared to respondents with no or mild disease (<3 palms). KMPI was used to assess quality of life; respondents were asked to rate statements from 0 to 10 where 0 means not at all and 10 means very much. (Example: How angry or frustrated do you feel with regard to your psoriasis?) n=number of respondents

- Respondents with psoriatic arthritis (49%) consider their disease a larger problem in everyday life than those with psoriasis (39%)

Problem in everyday life	Psoriasis (n=594)	Psoriatic arthritis (n=200)
Large problem (8-10)	39%	49%
Moderate problem (4-7)	44%	38%
Small problem (1-3)	17%	14%

## Work and insurance

- More than one-third (36%) of respondents are not working for a variety of reasons
- Nearly one-fifth (17%) of respondents not working are not working totally because of psoriasis or psoriatic arthritis
- More than one-third (35%) of respondents not working are not working partially because of psoriasis or psoriatic arthritis
- Nearly three-quarters (72%) of respondents have some type of insurance while 18% have no insurance
- Of respondents who are insured, less than half (41%) have full drug/prescription coverage or benefits

Respondents were asked to rate the problem of their disease in everyday life from 1 to 10 where 1 means no problem at all and 10 means a very large problem.

## Doctor care and treatment satisfaction

- More than half of respondents (58%) saw 1-2 different doctors in the past two years
- More than half of respondents (55%) see a dermatologist compared to a general practitioner (21%) or rheumatologist (14%)
- Nearly one-quarter of respondents (22%) are not in treatment
- Nearly one-fifth of respondents with psoriasis (15%) and psoriatic arthritis (16%) are very satisfied with their treatment

Satisfaction with treatment	Psoriasis (n=584)	Psoriatic arthritis (n=197)
High satisfaction (8-10)	15%	16%
Moderate satisfaction (4-7)	50%	51%
Low satisfaction (1-3)	35%	33%

Respondents were asked to rate their satisfaction with treatment from 1 to 10 where 1 means very unsatisfied and 10 means very satisfied.

## Methodology

Interviews were conducted with individuals with psoriasis and/or psoriatic arthritis by phone (n=200) and online (n=419) from June 22 - July 8, 2004. Respondents were screened for a balance of gender and age, and the majority (82%) of respondents had moderate to severe psoriasis. Nearly one-third of respondents (32%) are Members of the Foundation.

For more information from the survey, please contact Liz Horn, Ph.D., at [research@psoriasis.org](mailto:research@psoriasis.org) or 800.723.9166, ext. 404.

### About the National Psoriasis Foundation

The National Psoriasis Foundation is a patient-driven nonprofit organization that is the voice for the more than 5 million people diagnosed with psoriasis and/or psoriatic arthritis.

Our mission is to improve the quality of life of people who have psoriasis and psoriatic arthritis. Through education and advocacy, we promote awareness and understanding, ensure access to treatment and support research that will lead to effective management and, ultimately, a cure.

For more information, please call 800.723.9166 or visit [www.psoriasis.org](http://www.psoriasis.org)