

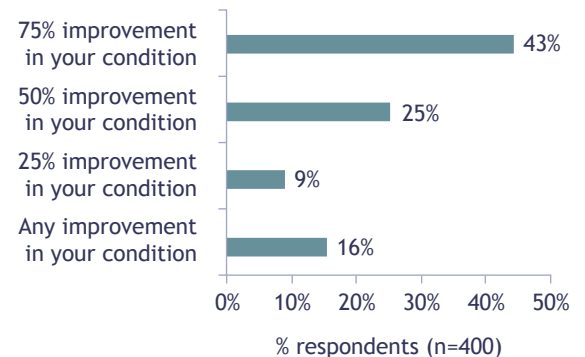
The National Psoriasis Foundation conducts survey panels twice each year to understand the experiences and opinions of people with psoriasis and psoriatic arthritis. These surveys help the Psoriasis Foundation gain awareness of the impact of these diseases in order to develop programs to meet the needs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

Respondent demographics

- Nearly two-thirds of respondents (64%) have been diagnosed with psoriasis, while one-third of respondents (33%) have been diagnosed with both psoriasis and psoriatic arthritis
- More than one-quarter (28%) 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 (90%) of respondents with severe psoriasis (>10 palms) continue to have severe psoriasis with treatment; 93% of respondents with very severe psoriasis (>20 palms) continue to have very severe psoriasis with treatment
- Nearly one-half (44%) of respondents experience flares of their psoriasis in winter
- Half of respondents (50%) consider a meaningful improvement to be a 50% improvement or less in their disease

Quality of life

- Approximately one-half of respondents report strong feelings of anger, helplessness, self-consciousness and embarrassment with their psoriasis (8-10 on a 0-10 scale where 0 means not at all and 10 means very much)
- More than two-thirds of respondents with severe disease (>20 palms) feel angry and frustrated (8-10 on a 0-10 scale). One-quarter of respondents (25%) with mild disease (<3 palms) feel the same level of anger and frustration (8-10 on a 0-10 scale)
- Nearly one-half of respondents with psoriasis (44%) and psoriatic arthritis (48%) consider their disease to be a large problem in everyday life



This graph illustrates respondents' expectations of treatment success. Respondents were asked after treatment, what is a meaningful improvement to you in your disease?

Problem in everyday life	Psoriasis (n=381)	Psoriatic arthritis (n=139)
Large problem (8-10)	44%	48%
Moderate problem (4-7)	38%	37%
Small problem (1-3)	18%	13%

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.

Work and insurance

- More than one-third (41%) of respondents are not working for a variety of reasons
- One-fifth (20%) of respondents not working are not working totally because of psoriasis and/or psoriatic arthritis and another 15% are not working partially because of psoriasis and/or psoriatic arthritis
- One-quarter (26%) of respondents with only psoriasis report psoriasis negatively affects their job
- Nearly one-half (48%) of respondents report psoriatic arthritis negatively affects their job
- Nearly one-fifth (17%) have missed work, while 10% have missed one to two days from work in the past month due to psoriasis and/or psoriatic arthritis
- Of those who have missed work in the past month, three-quarters (74%) report missing days from work for treatment for psoriasis and/or psoriatic arthritis
- Nearly three-quarters (67%) of respondents have some type of insurance while 10% have no insurance
- Of respondents who are insured, less than half (47%) have full drug/prescription coverage or benefits

Doctor care and treatment satisfaction

- More than half of respondents (60%) saw 1-2 different doctors in the past two years
- More than half of respondents (61%) see a dermatologist compared to a general practitioner (19%) or rheumatologist (15%)
- Nearly one-fifth of respondents (19%) are not in treatment because of cost (34%), given up (24%) or too much hassle (20%)
- Nearly one-fifth of respondents with psoriasis (17%) and psoriatic arthritis (18%) are very satisfied with their treatment

Satisfaction with treatment	Psoriasis (n=381)	Psoriatic arthritis (n=139)
High satisfaction (8-10)	17%	18%
Moderate satisfaction (4-7)	54%	58%
Low satisfaction (1-3)	29%	24%

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 psoriatic arthritis respondents by phone (n=188) and online (n=212) from Nov. 11 - Dec. 6, 2004. Respondents were screened for a balance of gender and age, and the majority (82%) of respondents had moderate to severe psoriasis. Nearly one-half of respondents (47%) are Members of the Foundation.

For more information from the survey, please contact Liz Horn, Ph.D., at 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