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# DRESS syndrome survivors have medical and skin sequelae with a substantial impact on quality of life.

### INTRODUCTION

- While many may fully recover from drug reaction with eosinophilia ar symptoms (DRESS) syndrome, some have persistent morbidity.
- Health-related quality of life (QOL) after DRESS is not well character

### OBJECTIVE

 We aimed to characterize sequelae and QOL associated with DRESS survivorship.

### **METHODS**

- DRESS cases from Mass General Brigham were identified utilizing in methods and manually confirmed with chart review and RegiSCAR so
- We characterized sequelae and QOL using an electronic questionnai
- The Drug Hypersensitivity Quality of Life Questionnaire (DrHy-Q) was translated and adapted from Baiardini I, et al . Ann Allergy Asthma Im content and face validity.
- DrHy-Q includes 15 statements, following which participants identify following: "Extremely," "Very," "Moderately," "Slightly," or "Not At All."
- Forty DRESS participants responded to the questionnaire (**Table 1**).
- Participants had acute DRESS syndrome a mean 5.6 years (SD 3.4 years) prior to completing the electronic questionnaire.

### RESULTS

Table 1. DRESS Pa	rticipar
Demographics	n ( otherv
Age (years), Mean $\pm$ SD	54
Female	
Race	
White	
Black	
Asian	

# **Drug Reaction with Eosinophilia and Systemic Symptoms Sequelae**

nd systemic	<ul> <li>Many DRESS survivors reported some of</li> </ul>	dearee of fea				
	their problem with medications, and repo	•				
rized.	•	Many organ problems were reported ( <b>Table 3</b> ). Skin				
S	DrHy-Q Sta					
	I am afraid that in an emergency I might be give	I am afraid that in an emergency I might be given a drug I am				
	For every illness, I would like to be certain that there is a drug					
	I would like the opinion of an allergist before I take drugs pres					
nformatics	I feel afraid because of my problem with medic	ations.				
scoring.	The problem of drug reactions affects my life.	The problem of drug reactions affects my life.				
ire.	I worry every time I have to take a drug, even i	I worry every time I have to take a drug, even if it's not the one				
	The idea of taking a drug makes me feel anxious.					
s bidirectionally	I feel anxious because of my problem of drug reactions.					
nmunol. 2011 foi	I find every disease more limiting than other people do becau					
	Even a minor illness becomes a problem for me.					
as one of the	The fact that I can't safely take drugs makes me feel different					
	I'm afraid of not being able to get treatment for pain.					
	I feel distressed because of my problem with adverse drug re-					
	I feel down or depressed because of my proble	I feel down or depressed because of my problem with drug re				
	I've given up recreational opportunities (sports	I've given up recreational opportunities (sports, holidays, trips				
ts (n=40)						
%) (unless vise specified)	Table 3. Specific Seq	uelae				
.4 <u>+</u> 17.4	Regular Visit/Hospitalization for					
25 (63)	Problems Related to	n (*				
20 (00)	Skin	26 (				
35 (88)	Infections	10 (				
2 (5)	Heart/Blood Vessels	8 (2				
2 (5)	Breathing/Lungs	7 (*				
2(0)	Kidneys					
	Thyroid Digastive/Costraintecting	7 (*				
	Digestive/Gastrointestinal	6 (*				
	Liver	5 (*				

### RESULTS

ar of being given a drug to which they are allergic (83%, **Table 2**). Many expressed fear (63%) and anxiety (50%) because of n context of taking a new drug even if not the one that caused DRESS (58%). problems were common, and included: pruritus (40%), rashes (35%), dry skin (33%), hives (23%), flushing (20%).

Table 2. DrHy-Q Results	6						
tatamant	Response n (%)						
statement	"Extremely"	"Very"	"Moderately"	"Slightly"	"Not At All"		
m allergic to.	9 (23)	8 (20)	5 (13)	11 (28)	7 (18)		
ug available that I may safely take.	8 (20)	10 (25)	8 (20)	5 (13)	9 (23)		
escribed by other specialists.	7 (18)	6 (15)	4 (10)	9 (23)	14 (35)		
	6 (15)	6 (15)	4 (10)	9 (23)	15 (38)		
	6 (15)	2 (5)	6 (15)	10 (25)	16 (40)		
one that caused an allergic reaction.	6 (15)	3 (8)	3 (8)	11 (28)	17 (43)		
	6 (15)	2 (5)	3 (8)	11 (28)	18 (45)		
	4 (10)	4 (10)	2 (5)	10 (25)	20 (50)		
ause I cannot take certain drugs.	4 (10)	2 (5)	5 (13)	9 (23)	20 (50)		
	3 (8)	3 (8)	3 (8)	9 (23)	22 (55)		
nt from others.	4 (10)	3 (8)	2 (5)	7 (18)	24 (60)		
	3 (8)	4 (10)	3 (8)	5 (13)	25 (63)		
reactions.	3 (8)	2 (5)	4 (10)	6 (15)	25 (63)		
reactions.	3 (8)	2 (5)	4 (10)	2 (5)	29 (73)		
os) because of my problem with drug reactions.	1 (3)	3 (8)	3 (8)	1 (3)	31 (80)		

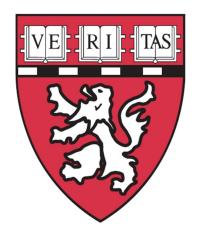
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### LIMITATIONS

- %) (65) (25) 20) 18) 18) 18) 15) 5 (13)
- Drug Hypersensitivity Quality of Life Questionnaire (DrHy-Q) has not yet been validated in English.
- Participants may not be representative due to nonresponder bias.

### CONCLUSIONS

- DRESS survivors report longitudinal health problems across diverse organ systems.
- Skin problems were most common, including drug rashes in over one-third.
- DrHy-Q responses indicate DRESS has substantial QOL impact.
- Detailed sequelae studies can inform DRESS follow-up care recommendations.



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