

PRESS RELEASE

OBESE ADULTS WITH ARTHRITIS REPORT POOREST QUALITY OF LIFE

New Results from the National Health and Wellness Survey Highlight Burdens of Comorbidities Among Obese Adults in the EU

NEW YORK, November 9, 2010—Compared with other obesity-related comorbidities, obese adults in Europe with arthritis report the poorest physical quality of life, according to new findings from the National Health and Wellness Survey (NHWS), conducted by [Kantar Health](http://www.kantarhealth.com) and presented today at the 13th ISPOR (International Society for Pharmacoeconomic and Outcomes Research) European Conference in Prague, Czech Republic. In addition to increased physical problems, respondents with arthritis are more likely to miss work.

“The prevalence of obesity is a growing health concern in Europe, and it’s a demonstrated risk factor for early mortality and various diseases, such as cardiovascular disease and diabetes,” says Amir Goren, Ph.D., Manager of Health Economics and Outcomes Research at Kantar Health. “However, the NHWS shows that obese patients are reportedly suffering at least as much with comorbidities not as commonly associated with obesity, such as arthritis, urinary incontinence and chronic bronchitis.”

While arthritis is associated with the worst physical burden among obese patients, the NHWS revealed that urinary incontinence is associated with obese respondents' worst mental quality of life. Chronic bronchitis is associated most strongly with obese respondents' work productivity impairments, such as being absent from work more often and being less productive at work. The survey also looked at hypertension, high cholesterol, thyroid condition, diabetes, angina and psoriasis, and it identified significant burdens associated with each.

“Preventing obesity can reduce the overall risk of patients developing comorbidities, but physicians and their patients need to be aware of the broader range of comorbid conditions associated with obesity so that they can better anticipate the risks and respond with appropriate treatments,” Dr. Goren says.

About the National Health and Wellness Survey ([NHWS](http://www.kantarhealth.com))

The study’s results were drawn from the 2008 European NHWS, a nationally representative, self-administered survey conducted annually via the Internet and in person surveys. Topics covered include the health status, attitudes, behaviors and outcomes among adults 18 or older.

Kantar Health conducts NHWS annually in the U.S., Europe and Asia. The survey is the largest self-reported database in the healthcare industry.

About Kantar Health (www.kantarhealth.com)

Kantar Health is a leading healthcare-focused global consultancy, specializing in portfolio optimization, market access, safety and outcomes, and brand and customer insights. Formed by uniting Consumer Health Sciences, MattsonJack, TNS Healthcare and Ziment, it is the next-

generation decision support partner to the pharmaceutical and biotech industries, delivering evidence-based guidance to support clients' global and local success.

With 40+ offices throughout the Americas, Europe, Asia-Pacific, the Middle East and Africa, Kantar Health provides the broadest global footprint, coupled with the strongest local knowledge to help drive clients' maximum performance at the local level. Market-leading solutions ensure optimal decisions and actions across the brand life cycle, from assessing opportunities and sizing markets...to developing products and building access strategies...to positioning brands and creating messaging...to managing stakeholder relationships and monitoring treatment outcomes.

Contact Information

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