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Rainoldi L, Zaina F, Villafañe JH, Donzelli S, Negrini S.

Abstract

BACKGROUND CONTEXT: The Scoliosis Research Society (SRS) SRS-22 Questionnaire has shown to worsen with increasing deformity in Adolescents with Idiopathic Scoliosis (AIS). However, all studies have been performed on patients who have already been diagnosed and in relatively small samples.

PURPOSE: To evaluate a large sample of consecutive patients before diagnosis to develop reference values, and to check the discriminative validity and correlation with deformity of the SRS-22.

STUDY DESIGN/SETTING: Cross-sectional study, specialized outpatients scoliosis rehabilitation institute.

PATIENT SAMPLE: 1,205 consecutive adolescents, 75% females (13.7±1.9 years), before their first scoliosis evaluation. Five subgroups: 0-10° Cobb (normals), and 11-20°, 21-30°, 31-40°, and >40°.

OUTCOME MEASURES: SRS-22 questionnaire.

METHODS: The SRS-22 was used to examine the differences between the domains of the 5 subgroups and total scores, and it was correlated with Cobb degrees and curve location. We used one way ANOVA and Spearman's rho test.

RESULTS: Apart from the Self-image domain in both genders and all subgroups, all other scores were above 4 points with small standard deviations. Females showed significant differences among groups for all domains and total score (p<0.05). In males, Function, Pain and Mental Health did not show statistically significant differences among groups (p>0.1). All differences found were below the minimally clinically significant change (0.5 points). The correlations with the severity of deformity measures were very low (r<0.289).

CONCLUSIONS: According to our results, deformity is apparently not a real issue for AIS before diagnosis made, treatment planned and/or specialists interfere with their everyday life. SRS-22 demonstrated some discriminative validity between small and large curves, but the differences found were small.

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KEYWORDS: SRS-22; adolescent idiopathic scoliosis; discriminative validity; reference sample

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