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**Quality of Life in Normal and Idiopathic Scoliosis Adolescents before diagnosis: reference values and discriminative validity of the SRS-22. A cross-sectional study of 1205 pupils.**

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**Author information****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 ( $r_s < 0.289$ ).

**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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