

**RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN QUALITY OF LIFE IN THE PSYCHOLOGICAL DOMAIN,
ACCEPTANCE OF ILLNESS, AND HEALTH CARE SERVICES IN PATIENTS WITH ASTHMA**

Bożena Mroczek, Katarzyna Parzuchowska, Maria Jasińska-Starczewska, Tomasz Grodzki and Donata Kurpas

¹ Department of Human Sciences in Medicine of the Pomeranian Medical University in Szczecin ul. Chłapowskiego 11, 70-204 Szczecin, Poland

² Chair and Department of Public Health of the Pomeranian Medical University in Szczecin, ul. Żołnierska 48, 70-204 Szczecin, Poland

³ Thoracic Surgery and Transplantology Department, Pomeranian Medical University, Professor Alfred Sokołowski Specialist Hospital, ul. A. Sokołowskiego 11, 70-891 Szczecin, Poland

⁴ Chair and Department of Family Medicine of the Wrocław Medical University, ul. Syrokomli 1, 51-141 Wrocław, Poland

⁵ Opole Medical School, ul. Katowicka 68, 45-060 Opole, Poland

Asthma patients should be considered not only in terms of the medical aspects, but also the nonmedical issues associated with the psychological domain, since these are factors that can significantly improve patients' health state, quality of life, and illness acceptance, and can contribute to the reduction of healthcare utilization. The aim of this study was to assess the acceptance of illness among asthma patients and their quality of life in the psychological domain, as well as to identify factors that influence illness acceptance and quality of life in the psychological domain. We examined 172 patients with asthma (median age: 58; range: 18-89) recruited from pulmonology wards. We found that those patients with low levels of illness acceptance and a high healthcare service index had low quality of life in the mental domain. Older age; being separated, divorced, or widowed; and having BMI > 25 all significantly affect the levels of quality of life and illness acceptance. In conclusion, measurements of health-related quality of life and illness acceptance are useful for estimating the impact and progression of asthma. These results confirm that psychological functioning should be taken into account equally alongside the somatic state.