THE DEVASTATING IMPACT OF SEVERE PRURITUS IN PRIMARY BILIARY CHOLANGITIS (PBC)

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Post hoc analysis of the Phase 2b GLIMMER study quantified the impact of pruritus severity on quality of life in primary biliary cholangitis, finding that severe pruritus combined with severe sleep disturbance or moderate to severe depression resulted in markedly impaired health utility scores.

KEY POINTS

- Patients with severe pruritus at baseline had substantially lower mean health utility (0.49) compared to those with mild (0.75) or moderate pruritus (0.76) on the EQ-5D-5L scale where 1 represents perfect health and 0 represents death.
- Severe pruritus was strongly associated with severe sleep disturbance: 66% of patients with severe pruritus had severe sleep disturbance, while no patients with severe pruritus had mild sleep disturbance.
- Among patients with severe pruritus, 49% had moderate or severe depression, compared to over 80% of mild or moderate pruritus patients having only minimal or mild depression.
- Patients with both severe pruritus and moderate to severe depression had extremely low health utility scores of 0.32 and 0.26 respectively, and those with severe pruritus and severe sleep disturbance had a mean utility of 0.47.
- This was a post hoc analysis of the GLIMMER study (NCT02966834) evaluating linerixibat, an ileal bile acid transporter inhibitor, with 147 patients in the intent-to-treat population assessed at baseline following a 4-week placebo run-in period.

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