



A COMPARISON OF MEDICAL COMORBIDITIES, PSYCHOSOCIAL, AND SEXUAL WELL-BEING IN AN ONLINE CROSS-SECTIONAL SAMPLE OF WOMEN EXPERIENCING PERSISTENT GENITAL AROUSAL SYMPTOMS AND A CONTROL GROUP



THE AIM OF THE STUDY WAS TO LEARN:



- (1) what **medical comorbidities** are **commonly experienced** by women with symptoms of **persistent genital arousal disorder (PGAD)** and
- (2) about the **psychosocial and sexual wellbeing** of women with PGAD symptoms as **compared to women without PGAD** symptoms

Persistent genital arousal disorder (PGAD) is a condition characterized by the presence of distressing physiological sexual arousal in the absence of sexual desire that last for hours, days, or are continuously present.

WHAT WE DID:

We asked 72 women with PGAD symptoms and 72 age-matched women without PGAD symptoms to complete an online survey. They reported their medical histories and rated their level of depressive and anxiety symptoms, sexual functioning, and relationship functioning.



FINDINGS:

Compared to women without PGAD symptoms, women with PGAD symptoms reported:



Catastrophic thinking about one's PGAD symptoms was associated with poorer psychosocial functioning, more severe symptoms, and greater symptom distress.

CLINICAL APPLICATION OF THE STUDY:



This study can provide healthcare providers with information about medical and psychosocial difficulties associated with PGAD; these aspects should be assessed and addressed in treatment.

The information presented is based on the publication "A comparison of medical comorbidities, psychosocial, and sexual well-being in an online cross-sectional sample of women experiencing persistent genital arousal symptoms and a control group" (Jackowich, Poirier, & Pukall, 2019).

Available at <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/31680008/>