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Survey Reveals Genital Psoriasis May Reduce Patients' Self-Confidence and Hinder Them from Having Close Relationships

INDIANAPOLIS, March 21, 2019 – Eli Lilly and Company (NYSE:LLY) announced today findings from a quantitative opinion survey, which found that people with genital psoriasis can experience reduced self-confidence and struggle to have close relationships. Two-thirds of people surveyed agreed they have stronger feelings of hatred toward their genital psoriasis compared to other affected areas on their body.

The Genital Psoriasis Impact Report, an online, quantitative opinion survey, was conducted among 997 U.S. adults with genital psoriasis symptoms, including those who have been diagnosed with genital psoriasis by a healthcare provider. The survey evaluated the mental, social and emotional impacts of genital psoriasis, exposing the effects genital psoriasis has on those who live with the disease.

“At Lilly, we care about patients. We listen to their stories and work to understand the personal aspects of their disease journeys,” said Michael Cobas Meyer, M.D., Vice President of Global Medical Affairs, Bio-Medicines at Lilly. “We will continue to do research that helps us find ways to raise awareness of individual patient needs and better support people living with psoriasis.”

The survey reveals that people with genital psoriasis fear the negative stigma of their disease.

- Five out of nine respondents agreed they believe people would view them negatively if they knew about their genital psoriasis.
- 51 percent of people surveyed agreed they are afraid of their genital psoriasis being mistaken for a sexually transmitted disease.



This feeling of isolation among people with genital psoriasis is further explained by how the disease has impacted their view of themselves.

- Among those surveyed, 66 percent agreed genital psoriasis impacts their overall self-confidence.
- 69 percent of those surveyed agreed genital psoriasis impacts how they feel about themselves.

This survey has shown that genital psoriasis may take a toll on a person's ability to have a healthy and close relationship with a significant other, causing further emotional impact.

- Nearly five out of nine people surveyed agreed genital psoriasis makes it hard to have close relationships.
- 54 percent of people surveyed agreed genital psoriasis impacts their relationship with their partner and 68 percent agreed genital psoriasis impacts their desire to engage in sexual activity.

In addition to their relationships, there was social isolation, as people with genital psoriasis removed themselves from social situations and important life moments due to their disease.

- More than three out of seven respondents agreed they socialize less due to fear of itching badly and 50 percent agreed genital psoriasis impacts their ability to socialize and meet new people.
- 57 percent agreed genital psoriasis prevents them from being "in the moment" for important events and 49 percent agreed genital psoriasis has impacted their travel or vacations over the past year.

"The emotional impact of psoriasis is significant and often patients are reluctant to discuss it with their doctors," said Leah Howard, Chief Operating Officer, National Psoriasis Foundation. "This study raises awareness of the burden genital psoriasis can have on patients and hopefully encourages them to begin a dialogue with their healthcare provider on the appropriate course of action."



For more information about genital psoriasis and available resources for patients, such as finding a doctor in your area, visit the National Psoriasis Foundation website at www.psoriasis.org/about-psoriasis/specific-locations/genitals.

About the Genital Psoriasis Impact Report

The Genital Psoriasis Impact Report was an online, quantitative opinion survey conducted by Adelphi on behalf of Eli Lilly and Company in May 2018. The survey was conducted among 997 U.S. adults with genital psoriasis symptoms, including those who have been diagnosed with genital psoriasis by a healthcare provider.

About Moderate-to-Severe Plaque Psoriasis

Psoriasis is a chronic, immune disease that affects the skin.¹ It occurs when the immune system sends out faulty signals that speed up the growth cycle of skin cells.¹ Psoriasis affects approximately 125 million people worldwide, approximately 20 percent of whom have moderate-to-severe plaque psoriasis.^{1,2} Psoriasis can occur on any part of the body, including the genital area.¹ A recent study found up to 63 percent of adult psoriasis patients reported having experienced genital involvement over the course of their disease.³ The most common form of psoriasis, plaque psoriasis, appears as raised, red patches covered with a silvery white buildup of dead skin cells.¹ Patients with plaque psoriasis often have other serious health conditions, such as diabetes and heart disease.¹

About Eli Lilly and Company

Lilly is a global healthcare leader that unites caring with discovery to make life better for people around the world. We were founded more than a century ago by a man committed to creating high-quality medicines that meet real needs, and today we remain true to that mission in all our work. Across the globe, Lilly employees work to discover and bring life-changing medicines to those who need them, improve the understanding and management of disease, and give back to communities through philanthropy and volunteerism. To learn more about Lilly, please visit us at www.lilly.com and www.lilly.com/newsroom/social-channels. P-LLY



¹ Psoriasis media kit. National Psoriasis Foundation website. <https://www.psoriasis.org/sites/default/files/for-media/MediaKit.pdf>. Accessed March 19, 2019.

² Skin conditions by the numbers. American Academy of Dermatology website. <https://www.aad.org/media/stats/conditions/skin-conditions-by-the-numbers>. Accessed March 19, 2019.

³ Ryan C, Sadlier M, de Vol E, et al. Genital psoriasis is associated with significant impairment in quality of life and sexual functioning. *J Am Acad Dermatol*. 2015;72(6):978-983.

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