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Title: EmPHasis-10 is associated with clinical outcome measures in pulmonary hypertension

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Body: Introduction: emPHasis-10 is a newly validated outcome measure for assessing health status in pulmonary hypertension (PH). It consists of 10 items on a semantic differential six-point scale (0–5); scaling range 0-50, higher scores representing worse health status. This study examines the relationship between emPHasis-10 and relevant clinical measures of disease severity and impact. Methods: 225 patients (mean age 59±1; 69% female) with PH (39% idiopathic, congenital 21%, connective tissue 19%, other 21%), completed emPHasis-10, Hospital Anxiety and Depression Scale (HAD), Dyspnoea-12 (D-12), WHO Functional Class (FC) and six-minute walk distance (6MWD). We examined the ability of emPHasis-10 to distinguish subgroups of PH patients with differing disease severity and impact. Results: emPHasis-10 scores discriminated subgroups of patients stratified on FC (ANOVA F=1.73; $p<0.001$); mean difference between FC II and FC III was 11.7 and between FC III and FC IV was 7.6. Participants who were in fulltime work had significantly lower emPHasis-10 scores (n=25, mean=19.6±12) compared to those not in any work (n=154, mean=30±10) ($p<0.001$). emPHasis-10 scores where significantly higher in patients receiving oxygen therapy (n=86, mean 31) compared to those not receiving oxygen (n=129, mean=25) (p=0.001). emPHasis-10 correlations were moderate for 6MWD (r = -041) and strong for psychological distress (HAD r = 0.77) and breathlessness (r = 0.74). Conclusions: The emPHasis-10 is sensitive to differences in clinical parameters. It is strongly associated with measures of PH impact and should provide a useful tool for patient assessment in busy PH clinics.