

Prurigo nodularis associated with mental health disorders

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(HealthDay)—Prurigo nodularis (PN) is associated with mental health

disorders, systemic illnesses, and HIV infection, according to a study published online Aug. 15 in the *Journal of Investigative Dermatology*.

Amy H. Huang, M.P.H., from the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in Baltimore, and colleagues estimated the prevalence of PN and burden of associated conditions in a real-world U.S. population. Adults with PN (aged 18 to 64 years; 7,095 patients) were compared to three cohorts: age- and sex-matched controls from the general population (16,595 controls), patients with atopic dermatitis (23,882 patients), and patients with psoriasis (38,283 patients).

The researchers found that the prevalence of PN was 72 per 100,000 using the 2016 U.S. population aged 18 to 64 years as reference. Patients with PN had elevated odds of eating disorders, [self-harm](#), attention-deficit/[hyperactivity disorder](#), schizophrenia, mood disorder, anxiety, and substance use disorders (odds ratios, 4.66, 3.17, 2.89, 2.26, 2.24, 1.93, and 1.62, respectively). The likelihood of HIV infection and non-Hodgkin lymphoma was also increased with PN (odds ratios, 2.68 and 2.28, respectively). PN also correlated with obesity, hypertension, and type 2 diabetes (odds ratios, 1.61, 1.50, and 1.42, respectively) and with an increased likelihood of receiving dialysis or having [chronic kidney disease](#), heart failure, cerebrovascular disease, and coronary heart disease (odds ratios, 4.88, 1.85, 2.18, 1.98, and 1.76, respectively).

"Awareness of related conditions can also help guide comprehensive workup and management of PN," the authors write.

Two authors disclosed financial ties to the pharmaceutical industry; one author disclosed ties to Unilever.

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