



# SEVERE IMPAIRMENT OF QUALITY OF LIFE IN CLIMACTERIC WOMEN SURVIVORS OF BREAST CANCER ACCORDING TO ETHNICITY



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**Conflicts of interest: None**  
**I have no financial relationships to disclose**

# CONTEXT

## Quality of Life (QoL)

**“An individual's perception of their position in life in the context of the culture and value systems in which they live and in relation to their goals, expectations, standards and concerns”**  
**-WHO, 1994**

- QoL is an important marker of wellness and health
- Studies in climacteric women indicate that ethnic aspects influence quality of life

## Objective

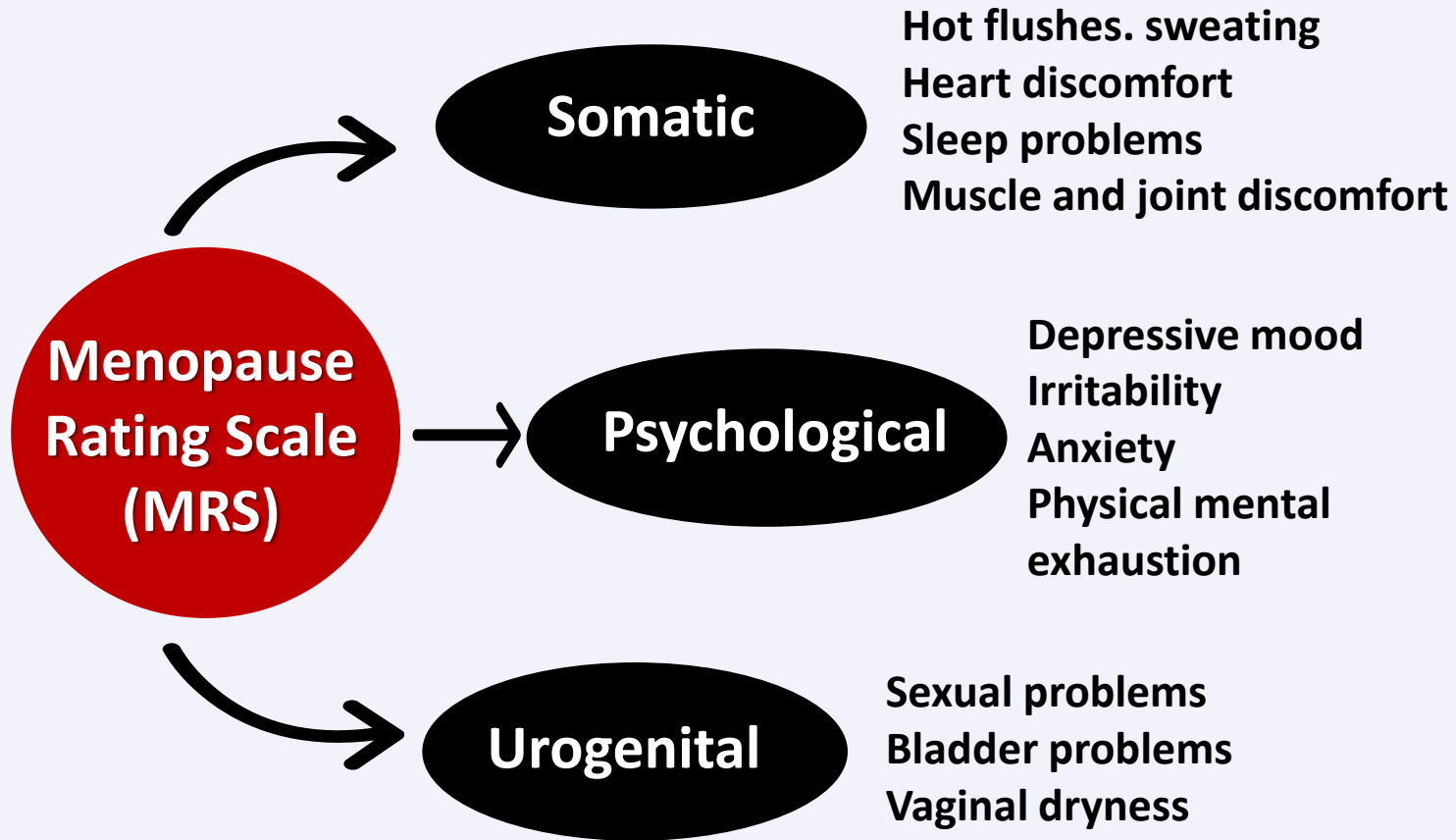
**To evaluate the association between ethnicity and quality of life in climacteric women survivors of breast cancer living in Colombia**

# METHODS

- **Cross-sectional study**
- **CAVICSEN (Quality of Life in Breast Cancer Survivors) research project**
- **Women (40-59 y) with one or more years of diagnosis of breast cancer. City of Cartagena**
- **They defined their ethnicity by self-recognition**
- **Menopause Rating Scale**
- **Four unadjusted logistic regressions. Dependent variable: Severe Somatic Impairment, Severe Psychological Impairment, Severe Urogenital Impairment And Severe Impairment Of Quality Of Life. Ethnicity was the independent variable.**
- **Statistical analysis: Epi-Info 7**
- **$p < 0.05$ : Statistically significant**
- **Anonymous and voluntary participation**
- **Approved by the ethics committee of the University of Cartagena, Colombia**



# METHODS



**Severe Somatic Impairment**

**Somatic  $\geq 9$**

**Severe Psychological Impairment**

**Psychological  $\geq 7$**

**Severe Urogenital Impairment**

**Urogenital  $\geq 4$**

**Severe Impairment of QoL**

**Total score MRS  $\geq 17$**

# OUTCOMES

SOCIODEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS n=200			
	Mestizo n=162 (81.0%)	Afrodescendants n=38 (19.0%)	p
Age (years), X±SD	51.4±5.3	50.6±4.9	0.44
BMI, X±SD	26.5±4.1	26.8±5.5	0.79
Months of diagnosis, X±SD	58.6±52.5	61.3±64.0	0.78
Housewife, n (%) [95%CI]	122 (75.3) [67.9-81.7]	26 (68.4) [51.3-82.5]	0.61
Premenopause	9 (5.5) [2.5-10.2]	2 (5.2) [0.6-17.7]	0.26
Perimenopause	15 (9.2) [5.28-14.81]	7 (18.4) [7.7-34.3]	
Postmenopause	138 (85.1) [78.7-90.2]	29 (76.3) [59.7-88.5]	
Early menopause	50 (30.8) [23.8-38.5]	13 (34.2) [19.6-51.3]	0.69
Single	23 (14.2) [9.2-20.5]	10 (26.3) [13.4-43.1]	0.37
Married	59 (36.4) [29.0-44.3]	10 (26.3) [13.4-43.1]	
Free union	36 (22.2) [16.0-29.4]	7 (18.4) [7.7-34.3]	
Widow	6 (3.7) [1.3-7.8]	3 (7.8) [1.6-21.3]	
Divorced	1 (0.6) [0.02-3.3]	8 (21.0) [9.5-37.3]	
Separated	37 (22.8) [16.6-30.0]	56 (22.0) [17.1-27.6]	
HT, n (%) [95%CI]	8 (4.9) [2.1-9.5]	0 (0.0) [0.0-0.0]	0.16
Chemotherapy	148 (91.3) [85.9-95.1]	35 (92.1) [78.6-98.3]	0.88
Radiotherapy, n (%) [95%CI]	107 (66.0) [58.2-73.2]	17 (44.7) [28.1-61.7]	0.015
Breast surgery, n (%) [95%CI]	151 (93.2) [88.1-96.5]	30 (78.9) [62.6-90.4]	0.07
Metastasis, n (%) [95%CI]	30 (18.5) [12.8-25.3]	5 (13.1) [4.4-28.0]	0.43

# OUTCOMES

SEVERE IMPAIRMENT OF MRS DOMAINS				
n (%) [CI95%]	TOTAL n=200	MESTIZO n=162 (81.0%)	AFRODESCENDANTS n=38 (19.0%)	p
Severe Somatic Impairment	25 (12.5) [8.2-17.9]	15 (9.2) [5.2-14.8]	10 (26.3) [13.4-43.1]	0.004
Severe Psychological Impairment	33 (16.5) [11.6-22.3]	24 (14.8) [9.7-21.2]	9 (23.6) [11.4-40.2]	0.18
Severe Urogenital Impairment	31 (15.5) [10.7-21.2]	27 (16.6) [11.2-23.3]	4 (10.5) [2.9-24.8]	0.34
Severe Impairment of QoL	35 (17.5) [12.5-23.4]	23 (14.2) [9.2-20.5]	12 (31.5) [17.5-48.6]	0.01



# OUTCOMES

## LOGISTIC REGRESSIONS

n=200

	OR [95%CI]	p
Severe Somatic Impairment	3.50 [1.42-8.57]	0.006
Severe Psychological Impairment	1.78 [0.75-4.23]	0.18
Severe Urogenital Impairment	0.58 [0.19-1.79]	0.35
Severe Impairment of QoL	2.78 [1.23-6.29]	0.01



## Conclusion

Afro-descendant climacteric women who survived breast cancer presented significantly higher Severe Somatic Impairment and Severe Impairment of QoL than mestizo

No differences were observed in Severe Psychological Impairment and Severe Urogenital Impairment.



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