



Challenges in the Management of Psoriatic Arthritis in Latin America: a systematic review

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BACKGROUND

- ✓ The management of psoriatic arthritis (PsA) in resource-poor countries has several challenges that are singular to these regions.
- ✓ In the last two decades, there is growing interest on the theme, with many organizations, such as GRAPPA, PANLAR and ILAR gathering to discuss it [1].
- ✓ Identifying challenges faced by rheumatologists and patients in Latin America allows us to design studies addressing the existing gaps of knowledge and compose public strategies targeting these difficulties.

OBJECTIVES

- ✓ To identify the main challenges on the management of PsA in Latin America (LATAM) through a systematic literature review (SLR).

METHODS

- ✓ The SLR analyzed studies reporting at least one challenge/difficulty on the management of PsA in LATAM following PRISMA statements.
- ✓ All references published in PubMed, Embase, and LILACS between 1980 and 2020 were included, excluding only review articles and article without available full-text.
- ✓ The selection of references was conducted independently by two researchers in the Rayaan QCRI program. Then, data were independently extracted by two other reviewers. All discordances were settled by consensus.

- ✓ Demographic data and main characteristics from the studies were collected and categorized according to predefined categories. The challenges encountered during data gathering were grouped according to categories of similarity after discussion between the authors. Data analysis was descriptive.

RESULTS

- ✓ The search strategy encompassed all LATAM countries and the four main languages spoken regionally. It resulted in 1505 references, with fifteen (13,859 patients) included in the final analysis (Figure 1).
- ✓ Difficulties faced during PsA management were grouped by categories of similarity (Figure 2).

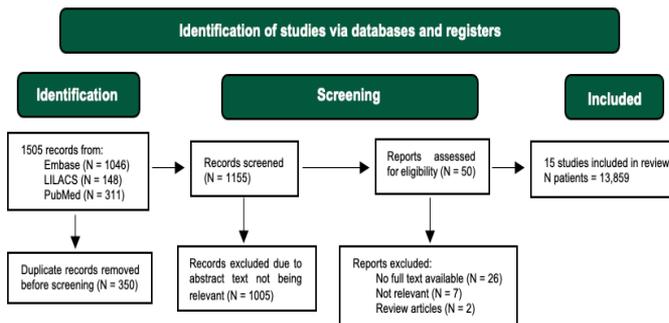


Figure 1. Flow-diagram demonstrating the selection of references.

CONCLUSION

- ✓ Challenges in the management of PsA in LATAM go beyond the care with opportunistic infections, but also comprise several educational and logistical limitations.
- ✓ Although there is a trend of increasing interest, there is still a paucity of data about practical issues regarding PsA treatment in LATAM.
- ✓ There were many limitations: all studies were observational, most were from university hospital from Brazil, and most studies included patients with psoriatic arthritis, ankylosing spondylitis, and rheumatoid arthritis.
- ✓ Improvements can be made in several aspects of care, such as educational folders, nursing programs to aid patients, medication distribution centers and governmental programs to facilitate access to rheumatologists and to therapy.
- ✓ It is of utmost importance to develop a research agenda about practical questions of management of PsA in LATAM.

REFERENCES

- ✓ 1. Elmamoun M et al. (2020). International league of associations for rheumatology recommendations for the management of psoriatic arthritis in resource-poor settings. Clin Rheumatol. 2020 Jun;39(6):1839-1850. doi: 10.1007/s10067-020-04934-7.

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STUDY CATEGORIES

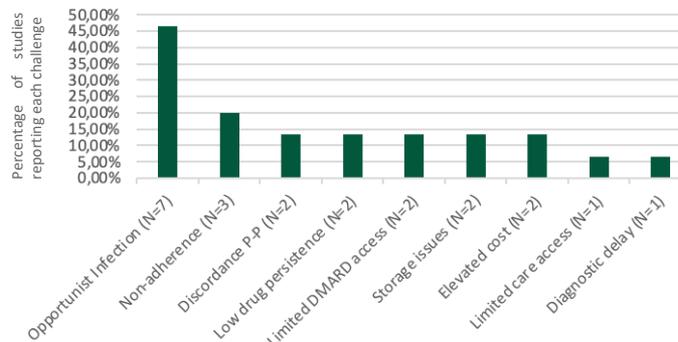


Figure 2. Challenges on the management of PsA in LATAM reported in recent studies.

