

Satisfaction and Compensatory Sweating after Sympathectomy: Long-term results in 263 patients in Clínica Santa María

Patricio Fernández A., Fernando Suárez V., José Luis
Lobos G., Francisco Suárez V., Mauricio Fica D., Rodrigo
Aparicio R., Claudio Suárez C.

Objectives

Long-term evaluation of patients undergoing endoscopic thoracic sympathectomy, with emphasis on **the degree of compensatory sweating** and **final satisfaction**

Evaluate the relationship between satisfaction and variables such as the level section of the sympathetic chain and body mass index

Patients

1151 bilateral VATS sympathectomy was performed in Clínica Santa María between January 2007 and September 2014

All patients were discharged the day after surgery and had a medical control within the next 3 weeks, and we asked them to rate the **degree of satisfaction** between 0 and 100, and the presence of **compensatory sweating** and severity (absent, mild, moderate, severe)

Patients

A survey to assess the long-term satisfaction and compensatory sweating was sent by e-mail or was asked by phone call

- Satisfaction on scale of **0 - 100**
- Compensatory sweating on scale of **0 - 10**

263 patients fully responded to the survey, being included in this study

SATISFACTION	CATEGORY
80 - 100	VERY SATISFIED
50 - 79	SATISFIED
30 - 49	DISSATISFIED
0 - 29	VERY DISSATISFIED

COMPENSATORY SWEATING	CATEGORY
0	ABSENT
1 - 2 - 3 - 4	MILD
5 - 6 - 7	MODERATE
8 - 9 - 10	SEVERE

Characterization of all operated patients versus follow up group

	All patients (median)	Follow up group (median)
Number of patients	1151	263 (22,8)
Age (range)	26 (11 - 60)	25 (13 - 52)
Gender (%female/%male)	677 /474 (59/41)	164 / 99 (62/38)
Level of sympathectomy		
R2 - R3	327 (28,4)	77 (29,3)
R3 - R4	297 (25,8)	77 (29,3)
R4 - R5	303 (26,3)	78 (29,7)
R2 - R3 - R4	15 (1,3)	1 (0,4)
R3 - R4 - R5	186 (16,2)	26 (9,9)
R4 - R5 - R6	5 (0,4)	1 (0,4)
R2 - R3 - R4 - R5	17 (1,5)	2 (0,8)
R2	1 (0,1)	1 (0,4)
Preoperative BMI		
R2 - R3	22,6	22,7
R3 - R4	22,6	22,2
R4 - R5	22,6	22,3
R2 - R3 - R4	22,6	24,5
R3 - R4 - R5	22,6	22,1
R4 - R5 - R6	22,2	20,5
R2 - R3 - R4 - R5	22,5	22,3
R2	22,3	22,3

Median follow up
27 months

	EARLY REGISTERED SATISFACTION (%)	FINAL SATISFACTION (%)
VERY SATISFIED	95,1	76,4
SATISFIED	4,4	14,4
DISSATISFIED	0,5	2,7
VERY DISSATISFIED	0,0	6,5
TOTAL	100,0	100,0

Level of Sympathectomy (ribs)	% OF VERY SATISFIED AND SATISFIED PATIENTS	
	EARLY	FINAL
R2 – R3	100	90,9
R3 – R4	100	90,9
R4 – R5	98,4	89,7

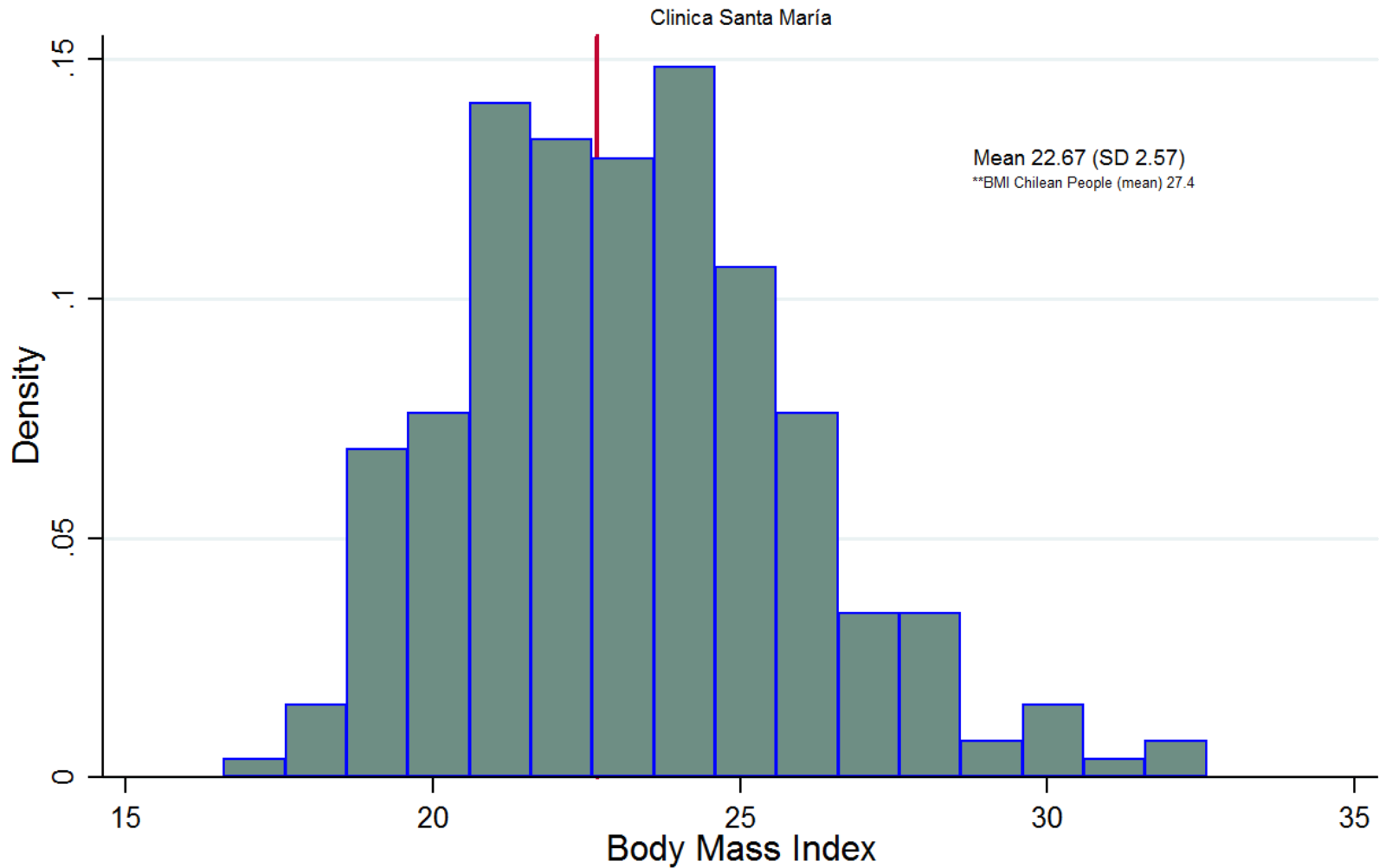
COMPENSATORY SWEATING (n= 263)	% EARLY	% FINAL
SEVERE	3, 8	23,6
MODERATE	10,6	44,9
MILD	45,6	28,1
ABSENT	24,0	1,3
NO DATA	16,0	1,1

Final Satisfaction	Severe compensatory sweating		Moderate compensatory sweating	
	N	%	N	%
Very satisfied	28	45,1	97	82,2
Satisfied	16	25,8	17	14,4
Dissatisfied	5	8,2	2	1,7
Very Dissatisfied	13	20,9	2	1,7
Total	62	100,0	118	100,0

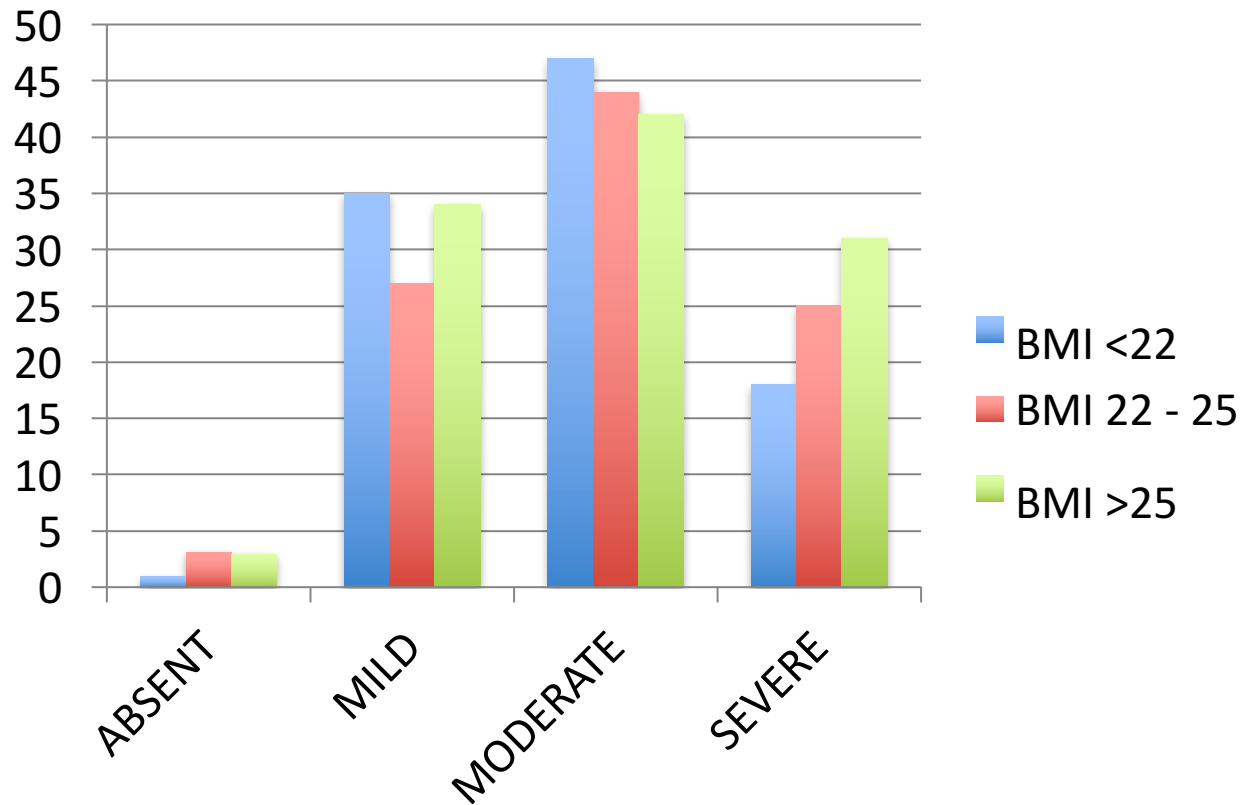
70,9%

96,6%

Body Mass Index Distribution in 263 patients with long term followup after Sympathectomy



Severe compensatory sweating versus Body mass index (BMI)



Conclusions

- Excellent initial satisfaction reported by patients, decreases to be evaluated in the long term
- Patients with severe and moderate compensatory sweating increase significantly in the long term, however, maintain a high level of satisfaction
- No direct correlation between the degree of compensatory sweating and body mass index was observed