

# Impact of IC/PBS on sexual functions and partnerships of female patients

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# Methods of the Study

Placement of **Online-Questionnaire** on the **websites** of:

- ❖ ICA-DEUTSCHLAND e. V. -  
Förderverein Interstitielle Cystitis  
<http://www.ica-ev.de/>
- ❖ The Cystitis and Overactive Bladder  
Foundation  
<http://www.cobfoundation.org/>

# Questionnaire

Developed at *Universitätsklinikum Charité der Freien und der Humboldt Universität Berlin*

## **Contents:**

- ❖ all aspects of sexual dysfunction and partnership problems
- ❖ social variables
- ❖ differentiating time levels: *before the disease* – *after outbreak of disease* – *with treatments* (added by D. S. Lazar)
- ❖ total number of items: 137

# Results of the Study

- ❖ 78 German and 37 English patients (ranging from 17 - 72 years) participated
- ❖ Control group: 87 healthy women (Questions relating specifically to the disease were omitted)
- ❖ No significant difference between English and German results
- ❖ No significant differences due to cultural background, education or religion

# Sexual Desire and Motivation 1

## **Before the disease**

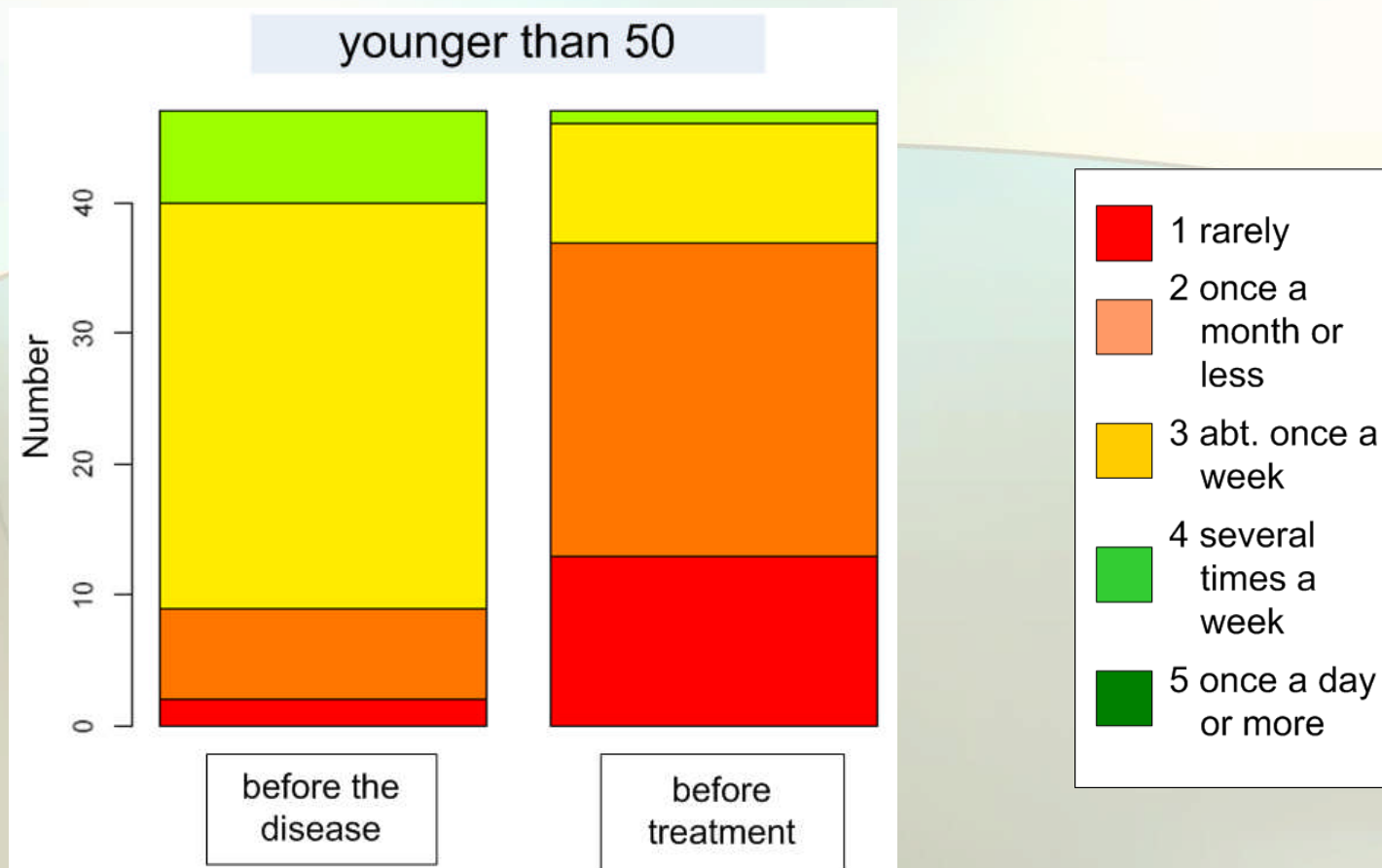
- ❖ Low sexual interest and desire mainly with menopausal and post-menopausal women

## **After outbreak of disease**

- ❖ Significant decline of sexual desire and interest in patients under 50 years .

# Sexual Desire and Motivation 2

*Question: How often did/do you wish to be sexually active?*



# Sexual Activity with Partners

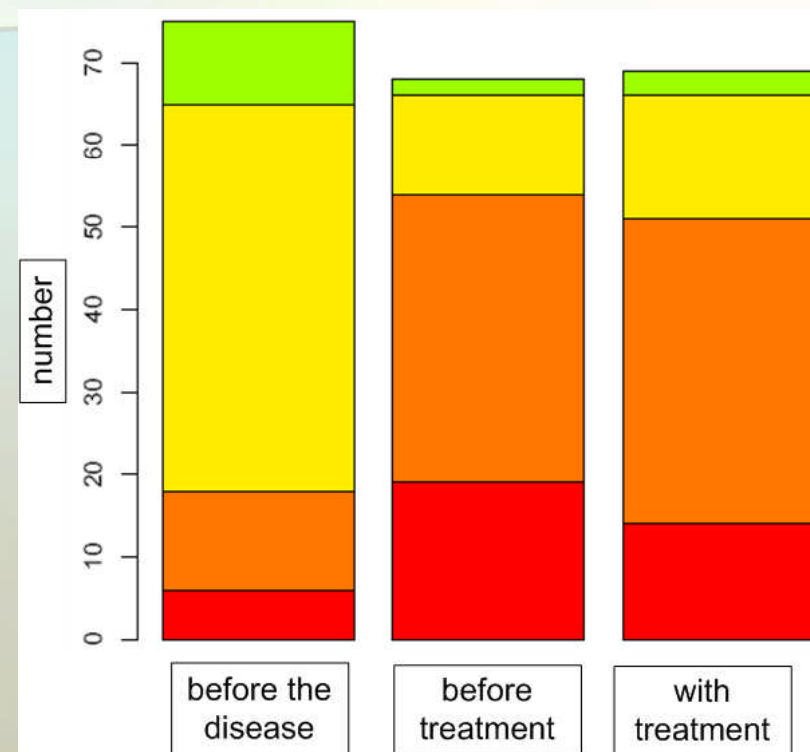
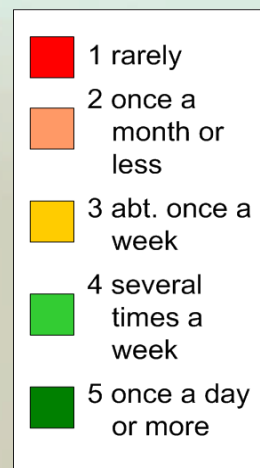
## **After outbreak of disease**

- ❖ Sexual activities with partners decrease significantly in all age groups.
- ❖ Arousal and orgasm disorders as well as pain during sexual intercourse increase significantly in all age groups.

# Efficacy of Therapies

Therapies applied to treat IC/PBS do not contribute to a significant improvement of the sexual disorders.

*How often did/do you wish to be sexually active?*



# Partnerships and Life Contentment

- ❖ Partnerships remain close despite illness and sexual disorders.
- ❖ Thoughts of separation are no more frequent than in control group .
- ❖ ***Overall life contentment of control group is significantly higher than that of patients – even before outbreak of the disease.***