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**Factors Influencing Patient Interest in Participating in an Online Self-care Intervention: A Scleroderma Patient-centered Intervention Network (SPIN) Cohort Study.**

**Objectives:** The SPIN Cohort was created to develop and test online self-care interventions for people living with scleroderma (systemic sclerosis, SSc). Patients in the observational Cohort complete assessments every 3 months, consent to be automatically assessed for eligibility when trials are conducted, and, if eligible, to be randomised to be offered one of SPIN's interventions. In order to offer interventions to patients interested in using online self-help tools, a 'signalling questionnaire' was designed to identify patients who would be likely to accept an intervention offer. The signalling questionnaire inquires about interest in 9 different interventions, each designed to address a different problem associated with SSc. It is not known, however, what factors influence patient interest in participating in a particular online intervention, and if intervention-specific signalling questions provide unique information or replicate broader characteristics, such as overall willingness to participate in any intervention or patient-reported self-efficacy. The objective of this study was to determine factors that explain responses to intervention-specific signalling items.

**Methods:** Participants consisted of SPIN Cohort participants from Canada, the US, the UK and France who completed baseline questionnaires from March 2014 through June 2017. Signalling questions queried about interventions to address fatigue, hand function, sleep, emotions and stress, body image concerns, pain, self-efficacy for managing SSc, nutrition, and exercise, on a 0 (not likely at all) to 10 (very likely) scale. Linear regression analyses were conducted for each of the 9 signalling questions, separately. Predictor variables included demographic variables, general interest in online interventions (mean of the remaining signalling questions), patient-reported self-efficacy, and severity of symptom associated with the individual signalling question.

**Results:** A total of 964 participants completed all baseline measures and were included in analyses (116 men; 12%). Mean signalling question scores per item ranged from 5.1 to 7.0. General interest in online interventions was the strongest predictor for all individual signalling questions (standardized regression coefficient  $\beta$  from 0.61 (sleep) to 0.80 (self-management)). Smaller, but statistically significant, associations were found with the symptom associated with the respective signalling question for 7 of 9 signalling questions and with general patient self-efficacy for 6 of 9 signalling questions.

**Conclusions:** Findings suggest that the main factor influencing patients' interest in participating in a disease-specific online self-care intervention is their general interest in participating in interventions.