To describe how persons with Axial Spondyloarthritis (axSpA) experience the disease from a physical, psychological and everyday life perspective as well as how they are treated within the European healthcare systems.

AIM

METHODS

Cross-sectional survey adapted from the Spanish Atlas of Axial Spondyloarthritis 2017, implemented in 13 European countries between July 2017 and March 2018 (see Figure 1).

Patients aged 18 or older, with a self-reported diagnosis of axSpA and under the care of a physician were recruited through patient organizations or via online panels.

RESULTS

EMAS survey participants were characterized by

• Long diagnostic delay
• High patient burden
  - Active disease
  - Frequently reported psychological distress

DISCUSSION

EMAS survey participants were characterized by

• Socio-demographics
• Diagnosis
• Comorbidities
• Psychological distress (GHQ-12)
• Healthcare utilization
• Pharmacologic treatments
• Non-pharmacologic treatments
• Disease activity (BASDAI)
• Physical activity
• Functional limitations
• Work productivity loss
• Patient hopes and fears

CONCLUSION

Results from EMAS may contribute to increasing disease awareness as well as improving the standard of care by highlighting important patient unmet needs.