Title: Prevalence of primary focal hyperhidrosis (PFHh) among teens 12-17 in US Population

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Objective: To obtain prevalence and other PFHh data in US teens age 12-17.

Background: Limited data exists on the prevalence, onset and impact of PFHh among teens.

Methods: A US-representative, online consumer panel of teens was surveyed. Responses were capped at 1,000 and, after validation, 981 complete responses were used in analysis. Classification of PFHh was based on published diagnostic criteria.

Results: 17.1% of teens surveyed experience excessive, uncontrollable sweating based on published diagnostic criteria. Among these, 75% indicated daily impairment from sweating is major or moderate. Average reported age of onset was 11 years; 27.5% reported onset ≤ 10 years. Most teens (92%) indicated they sweat from 2+ focal areas. Average reported number of focal sweating areas was 5.

Conclusion: PFHh appears to be more common among teens than previously published (previous estimates 2.1%1 and 1.6%2). Related daily impairment is considerable. Accurate diagnosis, effective treatment, and more study of PFHh in teen populations is needed.

Participants were unaware of the focus of the study and not recruited via researchers associated with this project. GlaxoSmithKline provided a non-interventional grant to the sponsor, International Hyperhidrosis Society.

References: