

AGE DIFFERENCES IN PATIENT CONCERNS AFTER BREAST CANCER

AN ANALYSIS OF UK ELECTRONIC HOLISTIC NEEDS ASSESSMENT DATA

Richard Simcock^{1,2}, Oliver Wilson², Taha Itani²

1. Sussex Cancer Centre, Brighton and Sussex University Hospitals NHS Trust

2. Macmillan Cancer Support

Background

Holistic Needs Assessment (HNA) is a key component of the Recovery Package endorsed by NHS England. Macmillan's eHNA is completed electronically via touch screen tablet and information is then sent through a secure website to support care planning.

Anonymous eHNA data can be used to look at the overall needs of different groups of people. We present an analysis of the most prevalent concerns based on data collected in 2018 from women with a breast cancer diagnosis stratified by age.

Methods

Data collected via eHNA at any point in the cancer pathway from all UK geographies were available. Concerns raised in these assessments were analysed but may not be a true representation of all concerns of breast cancer patients in the UK. All concerns were tabulated and the most frequently recorded are presented. Age was categorised into seven groups (18-30, 31-40, 41-50, 51-60, 61-70, 71-79, 80+).

Conclusion

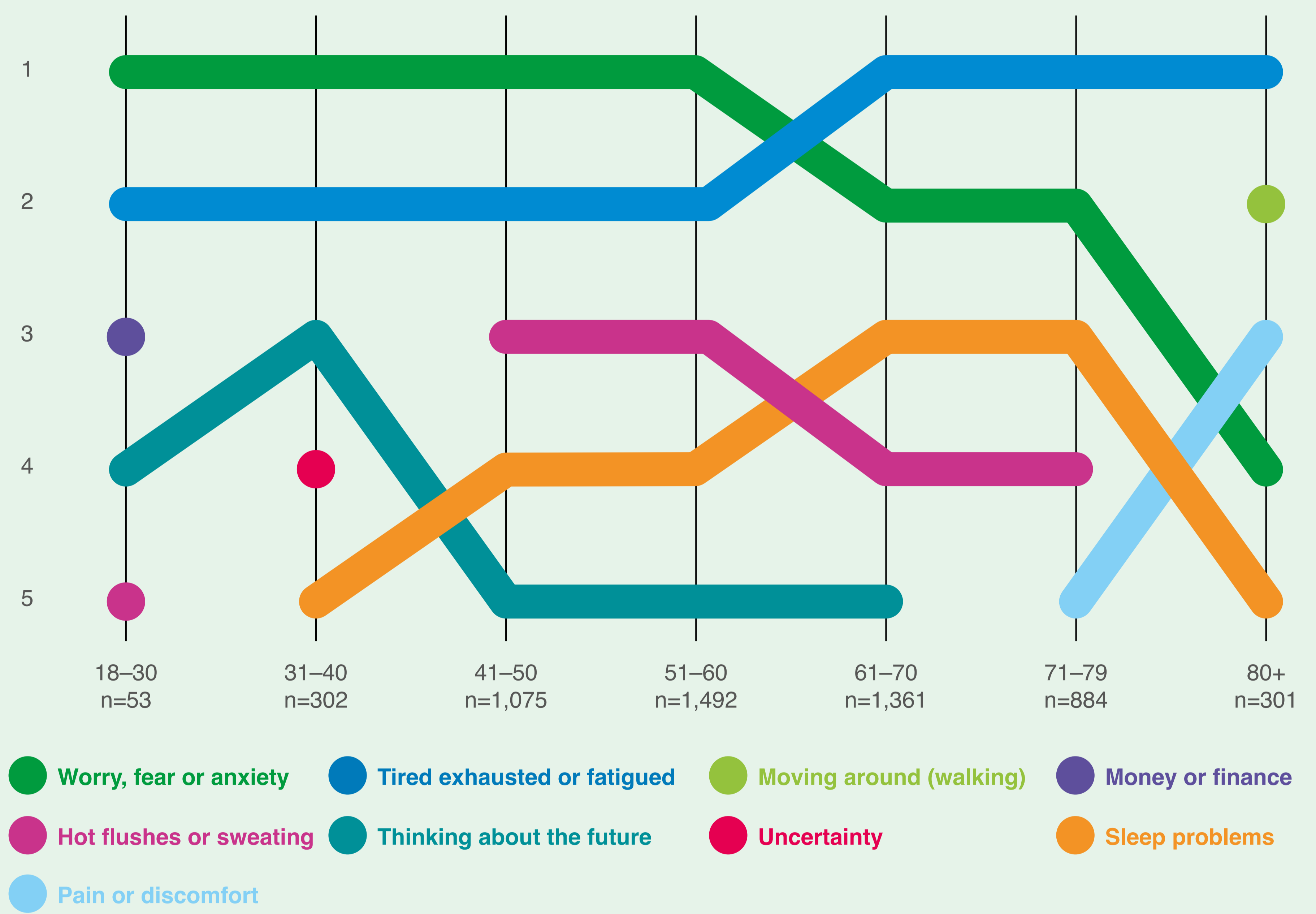
Our results highlight the use of eHNA to illustrate the chief concerns of women living with and beyond breast cancer. Worry and fatigue were the most commonly reported concerns for all age groups. Continued efforts to improve care to reduce worry and fatigue for patients is justified. This aligns with Priority 4 + 5 of the James Lind PSP. Analysis also highlights the utility of eHNA beyond individual care planning in providing descriptive data on a subset of the cancer population.

Results

5,468 eHNA assessments were available for analysis collected across UK. Due to the heterogeneity of data collection points, formal comparative statistical analysis was not appropriate and not performed.

85% of patients raised at least one concern, 75% at least 2 and 66% at least 3. 'Worry, fear and anxiety' and 'Tired, exhausted or fatigued' were consistently amongst the main concerns across all age groups. Worry was the most commonly raised concern in all age groups from 18-60 whilst fatigue was the most common in those over 60. 'Thinking about the future' featured as a common concern in all age cohorts before 70, but not after.

Ranking of top 5 concerns by age group



This work aligns with the top 3 research priorities for people living with and beyond cancer, as established by the James Lind Alliance and NCRI partners:

- What causes fatigue in people living with and beyond cancer and what are the best ways to manage it?
- What are the short-term and long-term psychological impacts of cancer and its treatment?
- What are the most effective ways of supporting the psychological wellbeing of all people living with and beyond cancer, their carers and families?

See the top 10 priorities at ncri.org.uk/lwbc

**Find out more
 about eHNAs**

