

**Comment on:
Development and validation
of the Simple Fibromyalgia
Screening questionnaire for
improving the recognition of
fibromyalgia in daily practice**

Sirs,

We have recently read Dr Salaffi's paper on the development and validation of the Simple Fibromyalgia Screening questionnaire for improving the recognition of fibromyalgia in daily practice (1).

This study found that the phrase "I have a persistent deep aching over most of my body" to be the best discriminator in their fibromyalgia screening questionnaire. However, we were surprised that no reference was made as to our use of exactly the same phrase in previous publications.

We first presented these peer reviewed findings at the American College of Rheuma-

tology meeting in 2016 (2), then published as full text in 2018 (3)

We assume that the omission of our work was accidental rather than plagiarism, and expect Salaffi *et al.* to acknowledge that the first use of the phrase "I have a persistent deep aching over most of my body" originated from the work of our research team at Oregon Health and Science University in Portland, Oregon, USA.

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