

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

Sirs,

With reference to the recent publication dedicated to the development and validation of the Simple Fibromyalgia Screening questionnaire (SIFIS) (1), published in the annual supplement of Clinical and Experimental Rheumatology on fibromyalgia, we wanted to point out that:

- the SIFIS items are not original, but were obtained, as clearly stated in the work, from a review of the screening and evaluation tools for fibromyalgia already present in literature;
- with regard to item 1, “I have a persistent deep aching over most of my body”, the first publication of this sentence, used

for screening purposes, is to refer to the research of Jones and co-workers (2). The lack of a bibliographic reference of this work is to be considered an involuntary omission, for which we apologise.

This item, with a dichotomous response, is the one that has the highest positive likelihood ratio, which demonstrates the excellent work done by Jones and co-workers in the first instance.

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References

1. SALAFFI F, FARAH S, BECI G, SCETTINO M, CAROTTI M, DI CARLO M: Development and validation of the Simple Fibromyalgia Screening questionnaire for improving the recognition of fibromyalgia in daily practice. *Clin Exp Rheumatol* 2020; 38 (Suppl. 123): S9-16.
2. JONES KD, AEBISCHER JH, ST JOHN AW, FRIEND R, BENNETT RM: A simple screening test to recognize fibromyalgia in primary care patients with chronic pain. *J Eval Clin Pract* 2018; 24: 173-9.