

Abstract

This thesis examines the overlap between functional movement disorders (FMD) and fibromyalgia (FM). These are common disorders, yet awareness of them remains relatively low. FMD are characterized by inconsistent motor symptoms, often accompanied by non-motor symptoms such as pain, fatigue, cognitive, and psychological difficulties. These non-motor symptoms significantly overlap with key symptoms of FM, which is primarily defined by widespread pain. Literature and clinical practice suggest a substantial overlap between these conditions, with current models proposing a shared pathophysiology. However, studies systematically mapping FM prevalence in FMD and its impact on cognitive symptoms and health-related quality of life (HRQoL) are lacking. In the research component, these associations are explored. Patients with FMD (n=120) completed a questionnaire assessing the presence of FM, along with self-reported measures of cognitive symptoms and HRQoL. The prevalence of FM in the study sample was 43.3 % (compared to 2-8 % in the general population). Patients with comorbid FM exhibited significantly higher levels of cognitive symptoms and lower HRQoL. A moderate correlation between widespread pain and cognitive symptoms was also revealed. These findings highlight the importance of screening FMD patients for FM and support theories suggesting links between these and potentially other functional syndromes.

Key words: Functional Movement Disorders; Fibromyalgia; Functional Neurological Disorders; Subjective Cognitive Symptoms; Health-related Quality of Life.