A screening questionnaire for body dysmorphic disorder in a cosmetic dermatologic surgery practice.

Dufresne RG, Phillips KA, Vittorio CC, Wilkel CS.

Source
Department of Dermatology and Butler Hospital and Department of Psychiatry and Human Behavior, Brown University School of Medicine, Providence, Rhode Island, USA.

Abstract

BACKGROUND:
Dermatologic surgeons frequently see patients with body dysmorphic disorder, a distressing or impairing preoccupation with a nonexistent or slight defect in appearance. Recognition of this disorder is essential to avoid unnecessary and generally unsatisfying surgical outcomes, but no screening tools are available for use in a dermatology setting.

OBJECTIVE:
To develop and validate a brief self-report questionnaire to screen for body dysmorphic disorder in dermatology settings.

METHODS:
A questionnaire was developed and its sensitivity and specificity determined in 46 subjects, using a reliable clinician-administered diagnostic interview for body dysmorphic disorder. The interrater reliability of a defect severity scale was also determined (n = 50).

RESULTS:
The self-report questionnaire had a sensitivity of 100% and a specificity of 93%. The interrater reliability (ICC) of the defect rating scale was .88.

CONCLUSIONS:
This brief questionnaire was a highly effective screening tool for body dysmorphic disorder in a cosmetic dermatology setting. Use of this questionnaire may help identify patients with this syndrome.