Seeking help for sexual difficulties: findings from a study with older adults in four European countries

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Questionnaire - sexual health and sexual habits

| Questionnane - | - Schuai ileaiti | ı and | SCAUGI | Hai |
|----------------|------------------|-------|--------|-----|
| among adults 6 | 60-75 years | | | |

| | Project 1600199801 |
|---|--|
| | Schema ID |
| For each question, read the question text and answer to the right or below the answer that fits best. This of without sharing your answers with others. Your answerw who has answered what. | questionnaire should be completed on your own and |
| 1 What is your gender? | 5 Have you ever had a steady/ committed relationship? |
| Male 1 Female 2 Other 3 | One answer only. Follow instruction to next question. |
| What year were you born? | Yes(⇒ 6) □1 |
| Write your year of birth: 1 | No |
| What is your highest level of formal education? | 6 If had a steady/ committed relationship: |
| One answer only Primary school (6-8 years at school) | How many years did the last steady/ committed relationship last? |
| Lower secondary school (9-10 years at school) | Write number of years (if less than 6 months, write 00, if 6-12 months, write 01): Write your answer, go to the next question |
| College, lower university level (Bachelor degree level or similar) | If had a steady/ committed relationship: How many years ago did the last steady/ |
| level or similar) | committed relationship end? |
| Do you currently have a steady/ committed relationship with anybody? A steady/ committed relationship also includes married/ cohabiting persons. | Write number of years (if less than 6 months, write 00, if 6-12 months, write 01): Write your answer, skip to question 12 |
| One answer only. Follow instruction to next question. | 8 If you have a steady/ committed relationship: |
| Yes | How long have you been in this steady/committed relationship? |
| Unsure (\Rightarrow 5) \square_3 | Write number of years (if less than 6 months, write 00, if 6-12 months, write 01): |

| Which of the options belo | | est |
|--|------------------------------|------------------|
| | One answer on | ly |
| Heterosexual | | 1 2 3 4 |
| Do you currently regard y belonging to any particul | | |
| | One answer on | ly |
| No Yes, Christian - no particular der Yes, Roman Catholic | nomination | 01 02 03 |
| Yes, Protestant/Church of Engla | • | 04 |
| Yes, Free Church/Non conformis Evangelical | [| 05 |
| Yes, Hindu | | 06 |
| Yes, Jew Yes, Islam/Muslim | _ | 07 08 |
| Yes, Buddhist | _ | 09 |
| Yes, Other | [| 10 |
| Don't know | [| 11 |
| Apart from special occas weddings, funerals and be often do you attend service connected with your relig | paptisms, how ces or meeting | |
| | | <u> </u> |
| Less than once a year | | ∐ 2 |
| Once a year | | ∐3 П4 |
| Twice a year Once a month | | □ 4 □ 5 |
| Once every two weeks | | ☐ 6 |
| Once a week or more | | 7 |
| | | |
| THE FOLLOWING QUESTION: YOUR HEALTH AND QUALITY | | |

| Has a doctor ever told you that you have any of the medical conditions listed below? | medicin | currently take prescribed | | |
|---|---|-----------------------------|------------|--------------|
| Tick all that apply | depress | ion? | Ono | answer only |
| Arthritis 🗆 01, | | | Office | answer only |
| Heart attack 🗆 02, | Yes | | | 🗆 1 |
| Coronary Artery disease / angina / other form | No | | | 2 |
| of heart disease | 19 If you are | a woman: H | ave vou ev | vor takon |
| Hypertension, also known as high blood | | e replaceme | | |
| pressure 04, | | | | answer only |
| Stroke 05, | | | | , |
| Diabetes, also known as high blood sugar \square 06, | | | | ☆ |
| Chronic Lung disease (not including asthma) 07, | Yes | | | |
| Parkinson's disease 🔲 08, | No | | | 2 |
| Epilepsy 🗆 09, | | | | our views on |
| If you are a man: Benign prostatic | your health. | | | |
| hypertrophy 10, | question, ple | ase give the | pest answ | ver you can. |
| If you are a man: Prostate cancer 🗆 11, | 20 In gener | al, would yo | u sav vour | health is: |
| If you are a woman: Cancer in the uterus or | 3 | , , . | | answer only |
| ovaries | | | | _ |
| If you are a woman: Breast cancer 13. | Excellent | | | |
| | Very good | | | |
| | Good | | | |
| | Fair | | | |
| | Poor | | | 5 |
| The following questions are about activities you | | | | |
| Does your health now limit you in these activities one box on each line | ties? If so, how m | uch? | | |
| | A lot | To some extent | A little | Not at all |
| Moderate activities such as moving a table, pushing | g 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| a vacuum cleaner, bowling, or playing golf? | . 🗆 | | | |
| Climbing several flights of stairs? | | | | |
| During the past 4 weeks, have you had any or regular daily activities as a result of your phy Tick one box on each line | • | oblems with | your work | or other |
| | | Vaa | | No |
| | | Yes | | |
| Accomplished loss than you would like? | | 1 | | 2 |
| Accomplished less than you would like? | | | | 2 |
| Accomplished less than you would like? Been limited in the kind of work or other activities y | | | | 2 |
| | ou do? | oblems with | | or other |
| Been limited in the kind of work or other activities y During the past 4 weeks, have you had any or regular daily activities as a result of any emotion anxious)? | ou do? | oblems with such as feeling | | or other |
| Been limited in the kind of work or other activities y During the past 4 weeks, have you had any oregular daily activities as a result of any emotion anxious)? Tick one box on each line | ou do? f the following pro tional problems (s | oblems with | | or other |
| Been limited in the kind of work or other activities y During the past 4 weeks, have you had any or regular daily activities as a result of any emotion anxious)? | ou do? f the following pro tional problems (s | oblems with such as feeling | | or other |

| During the past 4 weeks, how much dioutside the home and housework)? | did pain interfere with your normal work (including work |
|---|--|
| , | One answer only |
| | Not at all □ 1 A little bit □ 2 Moderately □ 3 Quite a bit □ 4 Extremely □ 5 |
| please give the one answer that comes c | ve been feeling during the past 4 weeks. For each question, closest to the way you have been feeling. |
| How much of the time during the past 4 Tick one box on each line | 4 weeks |
| All | All the time Most of the A good bit Some of A little of None of time of the time the time the time the time |
| Have you felt calm and peaceful? Did you have a lot of energy? Have you felt down-hearted and blue? | |
| During the past 4 weeks, how much of t time has your physical health or emotion problems interfered with your social activities (like visiting friends, relatives, etc.)? One answer or | smoke during a typical week? Write number of cigarettes/cigars/ cheroots or cigarillos |
| All the time Most of the time A good bit of the time Some of the time A little of the time None of the time | On average, how many alcoholic beverages do you consume in a typical week? Write the average number of glasses in each line. If you don't drink the kind of beverage, write 00. |
| How much do you weigh at present? | Number of glasses of beer? |
| Please record in kilograms: | Number of glasses of wine? |
| Please record in centimeters: | 1 • Number of glasses of spirits? |
| How many hours per week do you exercise? Apart from sports please also include household and gardening activities, walks and bike rides to and from work and/or leisure activities One answer or None About ½ hour per week About 1-2 hours per week About 5-6 hours per week 7+ hours per week | only 1 |

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| 32 | Below there are some statements with which yo please indicate your agreement with each item to alternative. Please be open and honest in your ratick one box on each line | y ticking | our answ | | | |
|----|---|----------------|----------|----------------------------------|-------------|----------------------|
| | | Strongly agree | Agree | Neither agree nor disagree | Disagree | Strongly disagree |
| | In most ways my life is close to my ideal | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| | The conditions of my life are excellent | | | | | |
| | So far I have gotten the important things I want in | | | | | |
| | life | | | | | |
| • | I am satisfied with my life | | | | | |
| • | If I could live my life over, I would change almost | | | | | |
| | nothing | | | | | |
| • | I am satisfied with my physical appearance | | | | | |
| | I don't like the way I look | | | | | |
| • | The way I look makes me feel good about myself | | | | | |
| | The way I look makes me unattractive | | | | | |
| • | My body and face look pretty much the way I would | | | | | |
| _ | like | | | | | |
| | I feel bad about my body and my appearance For me my appearance is an important part of who I | | | | | |
| • | am | | | | | |
| • | I am often aware of the way that I look to other | | | | | |
| | people | | | | | |
| • | In most situations, I find myself aware of the way my | | | | | |
| | face and body look | | | | | |
| • | I often think about the impression that the | | | | | |
| | appearance of my face and body make I am usually conscious of my appearance | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| 33 | - | othered b | y | | | |
| | Tick one box on each line | | | | | |
| | | Not at all | A little | Moderately | Quite a bit | Extremely |
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| | Feeling blue | | | | | |
| | Feeling suddenly scared for no reason | | | | | |
| | Feelings of worthlessness | | | | | |
| | Nervousness or shakiness inside | | | | | |
| | Thoughts about ending your life | | | | | |
| • | Spells of terror or panic | | | | | |
| • | Feelings of being trapped or caught | | | | | |
| • | Worrying too much | | | | | |
| | Feeling lonely | | | | | |
| • | Blaming yourself for things | | Ш | | Ш | Ш |

+

| Tick one box on each line | Hardly e | ver S | ome of the tin | ne | Often |
|---|--|------------|----------------------------------|------------|----------------------|
| How often do you feel that you | 1 | | 2 | | 3 |
| lack companionship? | | | | | |
| How often do you feel left out? | | | | | |
| How often do you feel isolated from others? | | | | | |
| IE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS ARE ABOUT YOUR A | TTITUDES | AND BEL | LIEFS | | |
| This question asks about your personal attitude describes your reaction to each of the following | | | k the one re | sponse th | nat best |
| Tick one box on each line | Strongly agree | Agree | Neither agree nor disagree | Disagree | Strongly disagree |
| | 1 | 2 | uisagi ee | 4 | 5 |
| Having sexual relations before marriage is wrong | Ш | Ш | | | |
| A married person having sexual relations with someone other than their spouse is wrong | | | | | |
| Two adults of the same sex having sexual relations | | | | | |
| is wrong | | | | | |
| Having one night stands is wrong | | | | | |
| Satisfactory sexual relations are essential to the maintenance of a long-term relationship | | | | | |
| Sexual relations without love is OK | | | | | |
| People are under a lot of pressure to have sex | | | | | |
| nowadays | | | | | |
| There's too much sex in the media nowadays | | | | | |
| Young people today start having sex too early | | | | | |
| Men have a naturally higher sex drive than women . | | | | | |
| The ability to have sex decreases as a person grows older | | | | | |
| Sexual changes that occur with age are not | | | | | |
| important to older people | | | | | |
| Being sexually active is physically and psychologically beneficial to older people | | | | | |
| E WILL NOW ASK YOU SOM QUESTIONS RELATE | D TO YOU | R SEX LIF | E AND SEX | (UAL EXP | ERIENCES |
| ne questions that follow use terms like sexual inte | ************************************** | al aav as: | d vooinal ! | toroours = | Co that |
| eryone attaches the same meaning to these terms | | | | tercourse | . 50 tilat |
| | | • | | | |
| ARTNERS OR SEXUAL PARTNERS: People who han nes, or as regular partners, or as married partners | | together | - whether j | ust once, | or a few |
| | | hiooto inc | serted in a v | voman'e v | anina |

| 40 | Have you sought professional help for | а |
|-----------------------|--|-----------------|
| | sexual issue in the last 5 years? | |
| | Tick all that apply | |
| No . | (\Rightarrow 43) | □ 1, |
| Yes, | because sexual activity is important to | _ |
| _ | | 2, |
| | because sexual activity is important to elationship | □ 3. |
| İ | because my partner wanted me to | □ 3, □ 4. |
| | because the change in my sex life had a | ∟ 4, |
| nega | ative impact on how I felt (e.g. sad, essed, frustrated) | □ _{5.} |
| | because the change in our sex life had a | J, |
| | ative impact on our relationship (e.g. loss | |
| of lo | ve, tension, arguments) | 6, |
| | because I feared that my partner would | |
| | another sexual partner | 7, |
| | because I was concerned that I would be able to meet a new sexual partner | □ 8. |
| İ | for other reasons | □ 8, □ 9. |
| 41 | | <u> </u> |
| 41 | If received professional help, was this from: | |
| | Tick all that apply | |
| | Hor an trial apply | |
| | | ☆ |
| | ary care physician / General practitioner | ☐ 01, |
| | ary care nurse | ☐ 02, |
| | ondary care nurse | ☐ 03, |
| | ondary care doctor | ☐ 04, |
| | siotherapist | ☐ 05, |
| | oort workeral worker | ☐ 06, |
| | al workerual and relationship therapist | ☐ 07, ☐ 08, |
| | chologist | 09. |
| 1 | er | 10. |
| 42 | | |
| | | |
| 72 | If you received professional help, how satisfied were you with the help you | |
| 72 | satisfied were you with the help you received? | |
| 72 | satisfied were you with the help you | nly |
| 72 | satisfied were you with the help you received? | nly |
| | satisfied were you with the help you received? One answer of | |
| Very | satisfied were you with the help you received? | ☆ |
| Very | satisfied were you with the help you received? One answer of the dissatisfied | |
| Very Diss Neith | satisfied were you with the help you received? One answer of the dissatisfied | ☆ |

| In the past 5 years, has a doctor or other health professional asked you about your sex life? One answer only | If you have experienced a sexual issue and NOT sought help, what was the reason(s) for this? Tick all that apply Embarrassed |
|---|---|
| Yes | Ashamed |
| Friend □ 01, Family member □ 02, Partner □ 03, Helpline □ 04, Health center or clinic □ 05, Internet websites □ 06, Internet discussion groups □ 07, Magazines □ 08, Self-help books/Information leaflets □ 09, Self-help groups □ 10, GP/Family doctor □ 11, Sexual health/GUM/STI clinic □ 12, Psychiatrist or psychologist □ 13, Relationship counsellor □ 14, Other type of clinic or doctor □ 15, Have not sought any help □ 16. | Have you ever, in your life time, been in a situation in which you did or had to do something sexual against your will or without your consent? One answer only Never |

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION!

FOR ALL WHO HAVE EVER HAD SEX (YES ON QUESTION 36): The next questions are about your sex life. Some questions use the term 'having sex'. By this we mean vaginal, oral, or anal sexual intercourse, masturbation, petting or fondling. Some people go through times when they are not interested in sex or find it difficult to enjoy sexual activities. The questions that follow are about some common difficulties that people experience.

| have you experied any of | enced the ng for a of <u>3</u> s or | this experi | uestion A: H ence cause y | | stress dic |
|--|---|----------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| In the land have you experie any of following period months longer | ou enced the ng for a of 3 s or | If yes on q this experi | ence cause y | | istress dic |
| | No | A | | | |
| 1 | | No distress | Mild distress | Moderate distress | Severe distress |
| ' | 2 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| | | | | | 4 |
| 🗆 | | | | | |
| | | | | 3 | 4 |
| · — | 2 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| | | | | Ш | Ш |
| | | | | | |
| 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| | | | | | |
| 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| | | | | | |
| | 2 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| ' | : All thing | gs consider | ed, how satis | sfied are yo | u with |
| | | nor | Satisfied | Complete | ely satisfied |
| | g 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 | g 1 2 | g 1 2 1 | g 1 2 1 2 | |

53 Compared to 10 years ago, how would you How many times have you had or rate your overall enjoyment in sex? attempted sexual intercourse (vaginal, anal One answer only or oral sex) during the past month? One answer only \square_1 Much lower Somewhat lower ____2 None About the same Пз Once in the past month Somewhat higher □ 4 2 or 3 times in the past month Much higher Once a week 2 or 3 times a week Compared to 10 years ago, how would you Once a day rate the quality of your orgasm? More than once a day One answer only How often did you masturbate in the past month? \Box_1 One answer only 2 Somewhat lower About the same Пз Somewhat higher □ 4 None \Box_1 \prod_{5} Much higher Once in the past month I do not experience orgasm 2 or 3 times in the past month Once a week In your lifetime, how would you rate your 2 or 3 times a week sexual activity throughout most of your life Once a day □ 6 (until the age of 60)? More than once a day One answer only Thinking about the past month, have you ☆ been worried or concerned by the overall I was sexually very active \prod_{1} frequency of your sexual activities (sexual I was moderately sexually active \prod_{2} intercourse, kissing, fondling and petting Neither active nor inactive □ 3 and masturbation)? I was moderately sexually inactive \square_4 One answer only I was sexually very inactive \square_5 Have you had any sexual activity (sexual Not at all worried or concerned intercourse, masturbation, petting or A little bit worried or concerned fondling) in the past year? Moderately worried or concerned One answer only Very worried or concerned Extremely worried or concerned \prod_{1} Yes Have you ever had sexual intercourse? No One answer only THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS ASK ABOUT THE FREQUENCY OF YOUR SEXUAL ACTIVITIES **DURING THE PAST MONTH.** \Box_1 Yes No IF YOU NEVER HAD SEX WITH A PARTNER, EXIT THE QUESTIONNAIRE AND SEND IT TO IPSOS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION!

| This question is or some while a committed part | ago. Was the p | | | | | | |
|---|----------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| • | | | | | | One ar | nswer only |
| | | | | | | | ☆ |
| | | | No . | | | | <u></u> |
| | | | Do n | ot want to a | nswer | | 🗌 з |
| COMMITTED PARTN F YOU DO NOT HAY | | R OR CO | MMITTED PAF | RTNER. SKI | P TO QUESTI | ION 63 | |
| Thinking about following states | your relations | | | | | | e with the |
| I feel emotional | ly close to my | partner v | vhen we have | sex togeth | er | ı | 1 |
| | | | | | | One ar | nswer only |
| | | | | | | | ☆ |
| | | | • | | | | |
| | | | Stro | ngly agree . | | | 2 |
| | | | | • | or disagree | | |
| | | | | • | | | |
| | | | Stroi | ngly disagre | e | | 5 |
| On a scale of 1 unhappy are you One answer or | u with your re | | | | | | ppy or |
| | 1 Very happy | 2 Quite happy | 3 Somewhat happy | 4 Neither happy nor unhappy | 5 Somewhat unhappy | 6 Quite unhappy | 7 Very unhappy |
| ïck your answer: | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |

| Please indicate how much you agree with each of partner or spouse in mind : Tick one box on each line | of the fol | lowing state | ments wit | h your reg | ular |
|---|--|--|--|---------------------|--|
| | Strongly agree | Agree | Neither agree nor disagree | Disagree | Strongly disagree |
| This person completely accepts me as I am | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| I can share my deepest thoughts and feelings with this person. | | | | | |
| This person cares deeply for me. This person would willingly help me in any way. This person would willingly help me in any way. | | | | | |
| My thoughts and feelings are understood and affirmed by this person. My partner has experienced sexual difficulties in the | | | | | |
| last year | | | | | |
| My partner and I share about the same level of interest in having sex | | | | | |
| My partner and I share the same sexual likes and dislikes | | | | | |
| I am not interested in sexMy partner has no interest in sex | | | | | |
| My partner and I kiss and cuddle each other One answer only. Tick what fits best. Very seldom or seldom | Relation Worrie Sexual Partne Body in Health I'm not | you have averaged by the problems about sexual difficulties and a sexual difficulties are sexual difficulties are sexual difficulties are sexual difficulties are sexual difficulties are sexual difficulties are sexual difficulties are sexual difficulties are sexual difficulties are sexual difficulties are sexual difficulties. | ng sex? upply ms ally transmi ciculties ns sex anymo | tted infection | □ 1, ONS □ 2, □ 3, □ 4, □ 5, □ 6, □ 7, |
| 2-3 times a week, almost daily or daily 2 63 How often have you avoided sex during the last year? One answer only | Yes | n general, do ny lubricant | s during se | One ansi | wer only |
| Never(\Rightarrow 65)1Rarely2Sometimes3Often4Always or almost always5 | ty se | ave you or y /pe of medio exual perfor ialis, Levitra | ine or pills mance, for | to assist example \ | your /iagra, |
| | No | | | | 2 |

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Thank you very much for your help and great contribution to scientific research on sexual health and habits. Please put the completed questionnaire in the pre paid envelope and post it to IPSOS as soon as possible.