

Unravelling pain in mesothelioma

A study over the course of the illness



Introduction

Pain is commonly associated with mesothelioma.

What we don't know

- Who develops severe pain?
- When in the course of the illness?
- What impact does this have on quality of life?



Method

We collected patient-reported data for those newly diagnosed with mesothelioma about:

- Pain
- Mood
- Quality of life

This was collected every **3 months** for a 12-month period.



Results

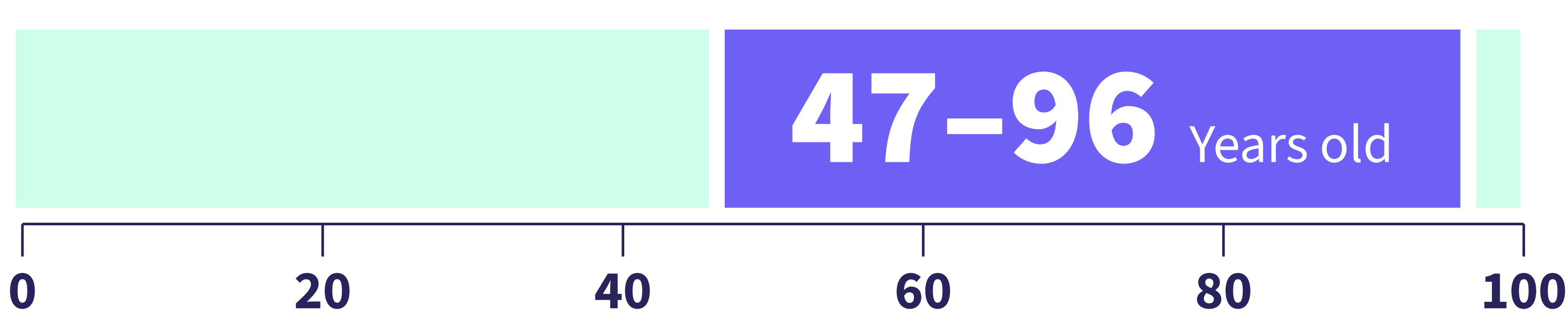
21 participants (14%) reported moderate or severe pain across the course of their illness.

7 reported the pain on their final assessment before death



16 participants had support from Specialist Palliative Care teams

74% men
average age 72.4 years

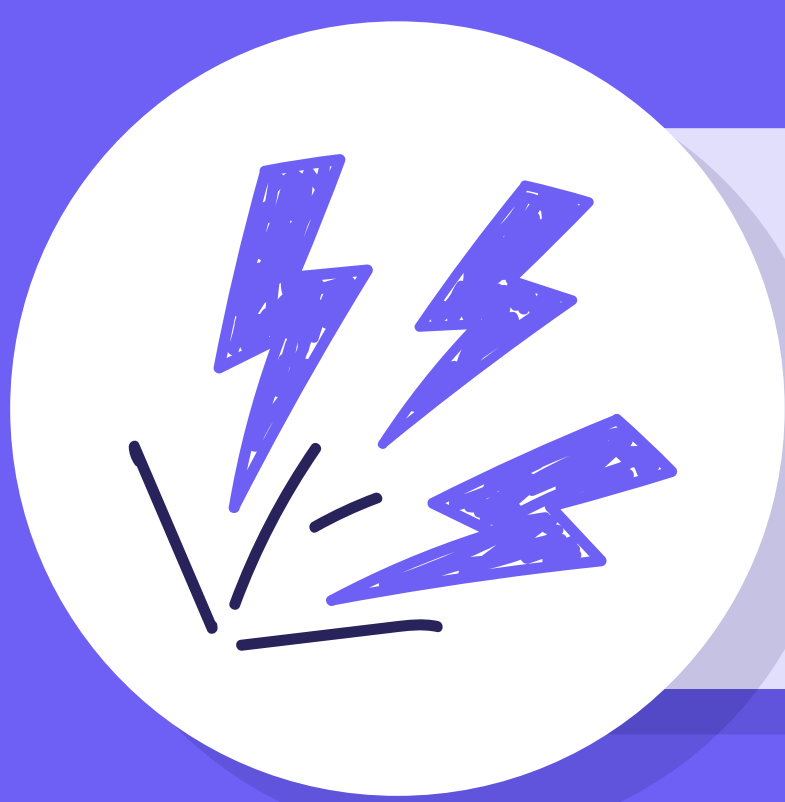


No one reporting moderate or severe pain were on strong opioid medication.

Those that did report pain also had poorer quality of life.

Almost half of the people in this study died during the 12-month study period.

Discussion



A small proportion of people reported moderate or severe pain but none were on strong opioid medication.



Where it was reported, pain had a significant impact on quality of life.



We need to target Specialist Palliative Care teams to those most in need – timely input is important in view of prognosis.



Specialist Palliative Care needs to help provide reassurance about opioid prescribing as well as other interventions to help pain management.



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