

Table 2 Physical HRQoL by socioeconomic and clinical characteristics

Characteristics	Physical functioning			Physical role			Bodily pain			General health			Vitality		
	Mean	SD	P	Mean	SD	P	Mean	SD	P	Mean	SD	P	Mean	SD	P
Sex															
Male	76.5	26.2	0.056	60.5	44.0	0.710	76.2	24.9	0.430	57.1	15.9	0.660	56.0	19.4	0.950
Female	66.7	25.2		63.5	41.0		76.1	24.9		55.7	18.0		55.8	20.4	
Age, years															
≤ 14	82.8	25.5	0.015	84.0	32.9	0.002	83.8	23.4	0.040	57.3	15.3	0.774	67.8	19.2	< 0.001
> 14	68.3	25.5		55.0	42.9		71.2	7.1		56.2	17.4		52.1	18.6	
Patient education															
Illiterate	87.0	22.2	0.068	91.6	28.8	0.022	82.0	27.9	0.509	52.0	8.7	0.437	62.9	21.7	0.433
School level	68.9	27.2		56.4	42.5		72.7	27.4		57.6	18.0		55.0	20.6	
Collage graduate	75.8	15.3		68.7	42.8		76.6	19.8		53.1	14.2		54.5	10.3	
Employment status															
Unemployed	71.4	23.3	0.954	51.4	44.6	0.271	73.7	24.1	0.929	51.5	15.7	0.189	54.1	14.0	0.687
Employed	71.8	26.7		63.9	42.0		74.3	27.3		57.4	17.0		56.2	20.8	
Ferritin level, ng/mL															
< 2000	77.5	2.6	0.516	69.1	4.2	0.501	78.4	2.8	0.838	60.9	1.4	0.136	59.6	2.2	0.259
≥ 2000	68.6	2.6		57.8	4.2		71.9	2.6		53.9	1.8		53.8	1.8	
Pretransfusion haemoglobin, g/dL															
< 8	71.4	2.5	0.929	61.6	4.3	0.966	72.8	2.6	0.739	52.6	1.6	0.159	56.9	1.7	0.743
≥ 8	71.9	2.6		62.0	4.2		74.7	2.7		57.9	1.7		55.5	2.1	
Diseased siblings															
1 or 2	25.6	25.6	0.725	62.5	41.3	0.817	73.5	26.0	0.667	56.4	16.1	0.975	57.5	17.8	0.184
≥ 3	70.3	27.6		60.3	46.0		76.0	28.7		56.5	19.0		51.7	24.2	
Chronic pain															
No	74.3	26.0	0.004	63.5	42.3	0.244	78.0	24.4	< 0.001	58.0	16.6	0.004	57.5	19.6	0.012
Yes	50.4	15.4		47.7	42.5		41.7	23.8		42.6	12.0		41.8	16.6	
Chelation therapy															
Receiving	90	14.1	0.323	0.01	0.001	0.202	92.0	11.3	0.345	54.5	10.6	0.869	77.5	31.8	0.121
Not receiving	71.4	26.2		61.1	42.5		73.8	26.8		56.5	17.0		55.4	19.5	
Splenectomy															
No	72.3	26.3	0.795	60.9	42.2	0.772	75.1	25.8	0.679	57.7	17.6	0.339	59.6	20.0	0.014
Yes	70.9	26.1		63.4	43.3		72.8	28.3		54.4	15.7		50.0	18.2	
Pulmonary hypertension															
No	72.6	25.3	0.069	63.6	42.0	0.230	72.7	27.2	0.753	56.1	17.2	0.171	54.7	19.3	0.480
Yes	45.0	25.9		33.3	57.7		67.7	29.9		42.3	40.4		46.6	23.6	

Bold figures are significant values. SD = standard deviation.