

Table 3 Mental HRQoL by socioeconomic and clinical characteristics

Characteristics	Social functioning			Role emotional			Mental health			Physical summary			Mental summary		
	Mean	SD	P	Mean	SD	P	Mean	SD	P	Mean	SD	P	Mean	SD	P
Sex															
Male	80.9	23.5	0.970	69.0	39.9	0.290	67.1	18.7	0.900	46.1	10.7	0.170	47.0	10.3	0.280
Female	80.7	25.1		77.3	39.5		67.6	19.8		43.4	9.9		49.2	10.5	
Age, years															
≤ 14	87.0	20.5	0.145	93.3	33.3	0.003	76.1	12.9	0.008	48.4	10.7	0.047	52.9	8.0	0.008
> 14	78.9	25.0		66.6	39.6		64.6	20.0		43.7	10.1		46.6	10.5	
Patient education															
Illiterate	91.6	18.7	0.194	80.5	38.8	0.765	62.6	16.3	0.503	51.4	8.9	0.038	47.0	10.0	0.733
School level	78.7	25.0		72.4	41.0		68.5	20.1		43.5	10.5		48.5	10.8	
College graduate	84.3	21.4		69.4	33.2		64.0	14.7		46.8	9.0		46.3	8.3	
Employment status															
Unemployed	80.8	21.7	0.993	68.6	38.1	0.662	71.7	18.3	0.303	42.7	9.6	0.358	49.0	9.9	0.703
Employed	80.8	24.7		73.8	40.2		66.5	19.3		45.2	10.5		47.9	10.6	
Ferritin level, ng/mL															
< 2000	86.5	2.4	0.464	79.8	4.2	0.740	71.5	17.2	0.391	46.9	11.5	0.229	50.2	10.7	0.664
≥ 2000	77.6	2.4		69.2	3.8		65.0	19.9		43.7	9.7		46.9	10.2	
Pretransfusion haemoglobin, g/dL															
< 8	74.6	2.5	0.109	66.7	4.2	0.327	62.3	18.1	0.103	45.1	9.5	0.883	45.4	10.4	0.112
≥ 8	83.1	2.4		75.3	3.9		69.2	19.3		44.8	10.8		49.1	10.4	
Diseased siblings															
1 or 2	81.0	22.6	0.864	73.2	40.0	0.924	67.0	19.1	0.762	44.9	10.2	0.852	48.2	10.2	0.879
≥ 3	80.1	28.2		72.4	39.9		68.2	19.6		44.5	11.1		47.8	11.1	
Chronic pain															
No	83.6	22.7	< 0.001	73.0	37.3	0.980	68.5	18.5	0.070	46.0	9.9	< 0.001	48.4	10.0	0.306
Yes	56.8	23.9		72.7	59.2		57.4	22.6		34.4	8.5		45.0	13.7	
Chelation therapy															
Receiving	100	00.0	0.260	100	00.0	0.335	74.0	31.1	0.623	52.1	0.9	0.319	54.2	10.9	0.405
Not receiving	80.4	24.2		72.4	39.9		67.2	19.1		44.7	10.4		48.0	10.4	
Splenectomy															
No	81.8	23.6	0.598	74.4	39.7	0.640	71.4	17.2	0.006	44.5	10.0	0.748	49.9	9.6	0.029
Yes	79.2	25.2		70.7	40.2		60.9	20.4		45.2	11.1		45.3	11.1	
Pulmonary hypertension															
No	79.6	25.0	0.386	73.0	36.2	0.073	67.8	18.7	0.190	44.8	9.9	0.259	47.9	10.0	0.213
Yes	66.6	31.4		33.3	57.7		53.3	11.5		38.2	10.4		40.5	10.2	

Bold figures are significant values. SD = standard deviation.