

Pamuk, O.N. *et al.*, "Increased Frequencies of Hysterectomy and Early Menopause in Fibromyalgia Patients: A Comparative Study," *Clin Rheumatol* Jan 24 (2009). [Epub ahead of print] PMID: 19169621

Methods and Results. The objective was to determine the relationship between symptoms of fibromyalgia (FM) and early menopause and hysterectomy.

We included 115 postmenopausal patients with FM (mean age 54.6 +/- 7.6) and 67 rheumatoid arthritis (RA) patients (mean age 55.5 +/- 9) into our study. All patients were questioned about the severity of their symptoms of FM, anxiety, and depression by using a visual analog scale and FM impact questionnaire. Patients' history of menopause and hysterectomy were recorded.

Menopause at age less than 45 years was accepted to mean "early". The frequencies of early menopause (38.3% vs. 13.4%, p

Conclusion. Early menopause and hysterectomy may be one of the factors contributing to the development of FM.