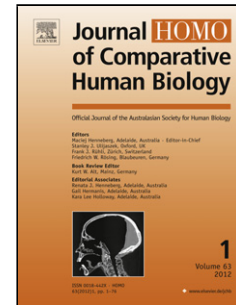


Accepted Manuscript

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PII: S0018-442X(16)30071-3
DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/doi:10.1016/j.jchb.2016.11.004>
Reference: JCHB 25456

To appear in:

Received date: 26-8-2016
Accepted date: 20-10-2016

Please cite this article as: Kaczmarek, M., Kwaśniewski, W., Halerz-Nowakowska, B., Goździka-Józefiak, A., The association between socioeconomic status and health-related quality of life among Polish postmenopausal women from urban and rural communities, *Journal of Comparative Human Biology* (2016), <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jchb.2016.11.004>

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The association between socioeconomic status and health-related quality of life among Polish postmenopausal women from urban and rural communities

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Abstract

In recent years, more scholarly attention has been paid to a growing range of geographic characteristics as antecedents of inequalities in women's health and well-being. The purpose of this study was to evaluate differences in health-related quality of life between rural and urban Polish postmenopausal women. Using a data set from a reproductive health preventive screening of 660 postmenopausal women aged 48-60 years, inhabitants of Wielkopolska and Lublin provinces, the association of place of residence, socioeconomic status and lifestyle factors with health-related quality of life (the SF-36 instrument) was evaluated using ANCOVA models and multiple logistic regression analysis with backward elimination steps.

A consistent rural-to-urban gradient was found in all indices of physical health functioning and well-being but not in vitality, social functioning, emotional role and mental health scales

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