Quality of life impairment among postmenopausal women varies according to race

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Background. Few studies have addressed the impact of menopausal symptom severity over quality of life QoL in Latin American women with different ethnics. Objective. To assess menopausal symptom severity and the QoL among postmenopausal Colombian women with three different ethnicities. Method. Data of healthy naturally occurring postmenopausal Hispanic, indigenous and black women aged 40-59 years who participated in a cross-sectional study filling out the Menopause Rating Scale MRS and a general questionnaire was analysed. Results. A total of 579 women were included, 153 Hispanic, 295 indigenous and 131 Afro-descendent. Hispanic women had an average age of  $55.3 \pm 3.3$  years. Indigenous and black women were less educated than the Hispanic ones  $2.2 \pm 1.8$  and  $4.6 \pm 4.4$  vs.  $6.4 \pm 3.5$  years, p < 0.0001. Hispanic women displayed lower total MRS scores better QoL when compared to indigenous and black women. Urogenital scoring was worse among indigenous women compared to Hispanic and black women. Bl