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Appendix 2

Table 1. Research objectives Working Group Survey Results on Standardizing Definitions of Improvement, Maintenance (or Stable State) andDeterioration (or Worsening)

(N	=	26).
<u> </u>		

Definition	Graphic Visualization	Primary Scoring (% agree ¹)
 Definitive deterioration Post-baseline deterioration After the post-baseline deterioration: no follow up scores are higher than one's own 	50 - Baseline 45 - 40 - 35 - Threshold for improvement	22 (85%)
 no follow-up scores are higher than one's own deterioration level (or its pre-defined margin); no follow-up scores are higher than the deterioration threshold (or its pre-defined margin); no follow-up scores are higher than one's own baseline level (or its predefined margin) no follow-up scores are higher than the improvement threshold (or its pre-defined margin) 	30 25 20 15 10 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5	
 Post-baseline deterioration After the post-baseline deterioration: follow-up scores may be higher than one's own deterioration level (or its pre-defined margin); no follow-up scores are higher than the deterioration threshold (or its pre-defined margin); no follow-up scores are higher than one's own baseline level (or its predefined margin) 	50 45 45 45 45 45 45 45 45 45 45	21 (81%)*

• no follow-up scores are higher than the improvement threshold (or its pre-defined margin)		
 Post-baseline deterioration After the post-baseline deterioration: follow-up scores may be higher than one's own deterioration level (or its pre-defined margin); follow-up scores may be higher than the deterioration threshold (or its pre-defined margin); no follow-up scores are higher than one's own baseline level (or its predefined margin) no follow-up scores are higher than the improvement threshold (or its pre-defined margin) 	50 40 35 40 35 40 35 40 35 40 35 40 50 45 50 45 50 45 50 45 50 45 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 5	4 (8%)
 Post-baseline deterioration After the post-baseline deterioration: follow-up scores may be higher than one's own deterioration level (or its predefined margin); follow-up scores may be higher than the deterioration threshold (or its predefined margin); follow-up scores may be higher than one's own baseline level (or its predefined margin) no follow-up scores are higher than the improvement threshold (or its predefined margin) 	50 40 40 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 5	1 (4%)
 Post-baseline deterioration After the post-baseline deterioration: follow-up scores may be higher than one's own deterioration level (or its pre-defined margin); follow-up scores may be higher than the deterioration threshold (or its pre-defined margin); follow-up scores may be higher than one's own baseline level (or its predefined margin) 	50 45 40 35 30 25 20 30 30 25 20 30 30 30 30 30 30 30 30 30 3	1 (4%)



• no follow-up scores are lower than the deterioration threshold (or its pre-defined margin)		
 Post-baseline improvement After the post-baseline improvement: follow-up scores may be lower than one's own improvement level (or its pre-defined margin); follow-up scores may be lower than the improvement threshold (or its pre-defined margin); no follow-up scores are lower than one's own baseline level (or its predefined margin) no follow-up scores are lower than the deterioration threshold (or its pre-defined margin) 	50 40 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 5	6 (23%)
 Post-baseline improvement After the post-baseline improvement: follow-up scores may be lower than one's own improvement level (or its pre-defined margin); follow-up scores may be lower than the improvement threshold (or its pre-defined margin); follow-up scores may be lower than one's own baseline level (or its predefined margin) no follow-up scores are lower than the deterioration threshold (or its pre-defined margin) 	Solution of the state of the st	2 (8%)











Note. Maintenance was the original term used for stable state; and deterioration was the original term used for worsening.

¹Primary scoring decision rule: Accept as soon as >/70% respondents rated "(completely) agree" (rating 4 or 5) AND </15% votes "(completely) disagree" (rating 1 or 2). Reject as soon as >/30% votes "(completely) disagree" (rating 1 or 2). When 2 or more options received a >/70% agreement, they were discussed and a final decision was agreed upon during a WebEx meeting; the less strict definition was usually chosen. For maintenance, it was agreed during discussions that both definitions of maintenance are needed.

*Agreed definition by the research objectives working group.

**The first definition remains the primary definition of maintenance, but the second definition (i.e., the definition of maintenance is combined with improvement) can be applied in exceptional cases.

Code	Statistical feature	Considerations	Primary Scoring ¹ (% essential)	Secondary Scoring ²	Rationale for the scoring (summarized comments from WG members)
Essential	/ highly desirable	statistical features			
S1	Compare 2 treatment arms	The ability of the model to perform a statistical test between two samples.	16 (100%)	40	 Comparing groups is the main goal of an RCT To compare groups, a statistical test is needed.
\$5	Adjust for baseline score	The ability to include the baseline assessment in the model either as a covariate or as the first of repeated measures.	14 (88%)	29	 Although randomization should take care of the confounding factors, there is still a need to stratify or correct for baseline variables for the primary outcome It provides a more accurate estimate of the treatment effect.
S16	Be clinically relevant	The ability of the model to produce results that guide informative clinical-decision making and influence clinical practice. This means the ability of the model to produce results on the size, certainty, and direction of the estimate and precision of the treatment effect (point estimate, confidence interval and error margin) that has a direct link with the clinical relevance classification of the PRO instrument.	13 (81%)	36	 Essential for proper interpretation of results
S3	Allow for confounding factors	 The ability of the model to include baseline covariates that are believed to be associated with the outcome variable or compliance. Covariates can be: Demographic variables: age, gender, 	12 (75%)	32	 Although randomization should take care of the confounding factors, there is still a need to stratify or correct for baseline variables for the primary outcome

Table 2. Statistical Methods Working Group Survey Results on Essential Statistical Features for Patient Reported Outcome Analysis (N = 16).

		Disease characteristics: duration, stage,Others: country, center, investigator,.			 It provides a more accurate estimate of the treatment effect.
S6	Handle missing data (Part I)	The ability of the model to deal with missing data due to non-compliance. Thereby, we mean a method that allows for incomplete data, i.e. a method that makes the least restrictive assumptions about their relationship with missing data.	11 (69%)	26	 Missing data is a problem in PRO analysis. Model should allow for incomplete data (that makes the least restrictive assumptions about missingness).
S 9	Handle clustered data (Part I – over time)	The ability of the model to allow for correlations over time (longitudinal repeated assessment within the same patient)	11 (69%)	25	 PRO data is often longitudinal and this should be reflected in the analysis method Essential in the case of a longitudinal study objective (e.g., comparing means over time) Not essential for time to event objectives
Other stat	istical features that	did not meet the essential / highly desirable c	riteria		
\$2	Compare more than 2 treatment arms	The ability of the model to perform a statistical test between more than two samples in an integrated test	9 (56%)	9	 Only needed if the trial hypothesis calls for an integrated test It is more efficient but not essential. Similar to other clinical endpoints, several independent tests may be considered (with error correction)
S13	Handle unbalanced designs (Part II)	The ability of the model to handle situations where the schedule of assessment is planned to be different over patients because the assessment time is dependent on a certain event in an individual (e.g. 3-weekly vs 4- weekly assessment schedule due to treatment cycles)	9 (56%)	14	 This should have already been taken into account during the trial design rather than requiring the analysis to handle it.

S15	Calculate sample size	The ability of the model to reliably calculate sample size and perform a post-hoc power calculation	8 (50%)	8	 The preference is in using an analysis model that fits the trial design rather than whether it can calculate sample size. Sample size can be based on a simpler model with fewer assumptions. Simulations can help provide sample size calculations
S12	Handle unbalanced designs (Part I)	The ability of the model to handle situations where the schedule of assessment is planned to be different over the treatment arms for practical reasons (e.g. 3-weekly vs 4-weekly assessment schedule due to treatment cycles)	7 (44%)	10	 This should have already been taken into account during the trial design rather than requiring the analysis to handle it.
S17	Robustness	The ability of the statistical procedure to be not overly dependent on critical assumptions regarding: a) an underlying parameter distribution (e.g. normality) b) a structural relationship between variables (e.g. linear relationship) c) the joint probability distribution of the observations/errors (e.g. independent observations)	7 (44%)	10	 This can be assessed with sensitivity analyses Desirable if we have statistical models that are robust to violations of these assumptions.
S8	Ability to maintain the ITT population	The ability of the model to use the entire intent-to-treat population in the analysis, meaning that all randomized subjects are included in the analysis according to original treatment assignment, regardless of protocol adherence (i.e. regardless the treatment actually received, patients' compliance including baseline, cross-over to other treatments or withdrawal from the study)	6 (38%)	7	 ITT is the standard in most protocols. ITT is needed for generalizability of findings. Too restrictive if needed for all analyses. The use of ITT depends on the study objectives.

S18	Handle multiplicity	The ability of the model to statistically test multiple outcomes (due to multiple scales of interest and/or repeated measures of the same outcome) in an integrated test	6 (38%)	-1	 Only needed if the trial hypothesis calls for an integrated test It is more efficient but not essential. Similar to other clinical endpoints, several independent tests may be considered (with error correction)
S4	Allow for time- varying covariates	The ability of the model to include time- varying covariates that are believed to be associated with the outcome variable or compliance	5 (31%)	2	 It depends on the study. It may be useful but will not be used for the primary analysis It makes the findings more difficult to interpret
S10	Handle clustered data (Part II – within groups)	The ability of the model to allow for correlations within groups (between subjects within the same institution/country,)	5 (31%)	1	 Similar to controlling or stratifying for confounding factors / covariates Not often part of the primary analysis even with other endpoints such as overall survival Depends on the study objectives: probably needed if comparing centers or countries
S19	Handle a bounded scale	The ability of the model to analyze an outcome variable that has a defined maximum and minimum value (e.g. 0-100)	5 (31%)	2	 In practice, having a bounded scale rarely generates problems This depends on the distribution of the data
S11	Handle clustered data (Part III – between outcomes)	The ability of the model to allow for correlations between outcomes (if multiple dimensions)	4 (25%)	-2	 It is only needed when a study calls for multiple outcomes to be tested at once. Even then, this can be handled by several independent tests (with error correction) Pre-specifying the PRO domains is important rather than modelling multiple PROs

					This adds too much complexity and model will be difficult to interpret
S14	Handle unbalanced designs (Part III)	The ability of the model to handle situations where the schedule of assessment is planned to be equal across patients, but differs across patients due to non-adherence to the protocol (patients respond to the assessment point based on the protocol not exactly on the same time)	3 (19%)	-8	This is a post-hoc issue that can be addressed with sensitivity analyses. This is something that can be dealt with using time windows
S7	Handle missing data (Part II)	The ability of the model to deal with missing data due to non-compliance. Thereby, we mean a method that provides an uncertainty estimate to address the impact of the missing data/how sensitive the method is to missing data	2 (13%)	-1	This is not essential as a primary analysis. The impact of missing data can be assessed via sensitivity analyses

Note. Members from the statistical methods working group were asked to rate each statistical feature from a scale of 1 - 5. 1 = not essential; 3 = desirable; 5 = essential.

¹Primary scoring decision rule: Accept as soon as >/70% respondents rated "essential" (rating 4 or 5) AND </15% votes "not essential" (rating 1 or 2). Reject as soon as >/30% votes "not essential" (rating 1 or 2).

²Secondary scoring (sensitivity analysis): Ranking based on weighted sums. Ratings of 5, 4, 3, 2, 1 are transformed to scores of +3, +1, 0, -1, -3 respectively. For example, if a statistical feature is given a rating of 5, the transformed score is +3. The sum of the transformed scores for each statistical feature was used to rank the statistical features. Highest possible score: 48 (16 * 3). Lowest possible score: -48 (16 * -3).

Table 3a. Coding scheme for the evaluation of each statistical method based on agreed essential/highly desirable statistical featurefor PRO analysis

Statistical Feature	Codes	Examples
Clinical relevance: produce results on the size . direct link with the clinical relevance classification	certainty and direction of the estimation and tion of the instrument	d precision of the treatment effect that have a
 Clinical relevance at the within- individual level* 	(Yes) The within-individual level outcome can be directly linked to the clinical relevance classification of the instrument AND the clinical relevance of the result is interpreted at the within-individual level	 Definition of event for "time to event": change score is computed for each individual; if the change score reaches a pre-defined threshold, individual data is coded as an event.
*Note that this is not a feature of the statistical method.	(No) Clinical relevance of the result cannot be directly linked to the clinical relevance classification of the instrument OR clinical relevance of the result is not interpreted at the within-individual level	 Raw or change scores are used as an outcome variable, and the clinical relevance of the result is interpreted through an estimate of the mean on the group level Individual summary measures that cannot be directly linked to the clinical relevance classification of the instrument
 Clinical relevance of the <u>treatment</u> <u>effect</u>: Within-group/ Between groups* *Note that all evaluations are based on 	 (Yes) Statistical models that produce not only statistical significance estimates, but also the magnitude of the treatment effect Between group: Clinical relevance of the result is interpreted as a difference between groups; and this difference can be directly linked to the clinical relevance classification of the instrument Within-group: Clinical relevance of the result is interpreted as a change within a group; and this group change can be directly linked to the clinical relevance classification of the instrument 	 Between-group: Mean difference between groups (with CI); Odds ratio (with CI) Within-group: This can be seen in longitudinal models (e.g., mixed models) which estimates the main effect of time (mean change within group with the corresponding CI).
comparison of only two arms	 (No) Statistical models that give a statistical significance estimate, but the magnitude of the treatment effect is not estimated or the treatment effect is distorted Between group: Clinical relevance of the result for the difference between groups cannot be directly linked to the clinical relevance classification of the instrument Within-group: Clinical relevance of the 	 Between-group: Results are derived from a sum of squares or sum of ranks Within-group: Results are derived from a sum of squares

		be directly linked to the clinical relevance classification of the instrument	
		(Yes) Covariates and stratification can be	
3. A ba	Adjust for covariates including	(Limited)	
	baseline	Can only include stratification	
		(No)	
		Inclusion of covariates and stratification are not possible	
		(Informative missingness)	
		Method has the ability to take into account informative missingness	
4.	Missing data with least restrictions	(The process which caused the missing data is informative and can be used to estimate the true response; MAR or MNAR) ¹	
		(Non-informative missingness)	
		Method provides valid inference only in the case of non-informative missingness	
		(the process which caused the missing data is not informative about the parameter that is to be estimated; MCAR) ¹	
		(Yes)	Covariance structure of the repeated assessments can be specified.
		Repeated assessments of each individual is taken into account; the order of measurements over time is also taken into account.	
		(Limited)	
5.	Clustered data (repeated assessments)	Repeated assessments of each individual is taken into account. However the order of measurements over time cannot be taken fully into account.	
		(No) Repeated assessments are not taken into account. Each assessment is treated as an independent observation.	Techniques designed for independent observations (i.e., one observation per patient, e.g. techniques for cross-sectional data) are used even though the data set contains repeated (non- independent) observations per individual

Table 3b. Evaluation of each statistical method based on agreed essential/highly desirable statistical feature for PRO analysis

Stat Method	Clinical relevance		Descriptive	Adjust for	Missing data with least	Clustered data –	Recommended #	Comments		
	Within-individual	Within-group and between group (treatment effect)		including baseline	restrictions	assessments	assessments			
Improvement / wors	sening (event): time to event									
Maintenance (event	Maintenance (event): time to (end of) maintenance									
Time to event: Time	to event									
Cox PH (Kaplan-Meier) ⁴⁻⁶	Yes Clinical relevance of the result is interpreted at the within-individual level (through a clinically relevant definition of a within- individual event)	Yes Between group: Clinical relevance of the difference between groups can be assessed using a hazard ratio (with CI)	 Median duration for each group Survival probabilities for each group at a time point 	Yes Covariates and stratification can be included	Can handle <u>informative</u> missingness Method provides valid inference when censored* data are MCAR or MAR. *Non-informative censoring: censoring is independent from the possibly unobserved time-to-event applies ⁶	Limited: Cluster of repeated assessments per patient (with event time), but the order of measurements over time is ignored (i.e., measurements before or after the specified event is ignored).	Baseline + <u>Sufficient</u> # of follow-ups Sufficient follow-up assessments needed to capture occurrence of event	Strong assumption of proportional hazards Results need to be checked to assess whether assumption of proportional hazards is met. If not met, consider using log-rank test + restricted mean survival time (RMST) Assumption of independent censoring should be met ⁷		

Log-rank test	Yes	No		Limited	Can handle informative	Limited:	Baseline +			
(Kaplan-Meier) ⁴⁻⁶					missingness		Sufficient # of			
(Ruplan Meler)						~	follow-ups			
	Clinical relevance of the	Between group:	- Median	Can only	Mathad mayidaa valid	Cluster of repeated		Less efficient when		
	within-individual level		each group	stratification	inference when	patient (with event	Sufficient	assumption is not met		
	(through a clinically relevant	Indicates whether	euch group	strutteuton	censored* data are	time), but the	follow-up	but does not require the		
	definition of a within-	survival between two			MCAR or MAR.	order of	assessments	assumption of		
	individual event)	groups is significantly	- Survival			measurements	needed to	proportional hazards.		
		different, but does not	probabilities			over time is	capture			
		indicate how different	for each group		*Non-informative	ignored (i.e.,	event	Accumption of		
		they are.	at a time point		independent from the	before or after the	event	independent censoring		
					possibly unobserved	specified event is		should be met		
					time-to-event 6	ignored).				
Improvement / wors	Improvement / worsening (response): Proportion of patients with a response at time t									
Maintenance: Propo	rtion of patients with a maintaine	ed response at time t								

Fisher's exact test ⁸⁻	Yes Clinical relevance of the result is interpreted at the within-individual level (through a clinically relevant definition of a within- individual event or discrete outcomes)	No Between group: Discrete/binary outcome: Only indicates whether there is an association between treatment and frequency of their response, but does not indicate the magnitude of this association.	-Proportion (or percentage) of responders for each group -Odds/risk ratio	No Inclusion of covariates and stratification are not possible	Can only handle <u>non-informative</u> missingness Method provides valid inference only for MCAR. Listwise deletion/complete case analysis: Patients with no data at baseline and/or specific timepoint are not included in the analysis.	 No Does not cluster repeated assessments per patient Does not take into account longitudinal nature of data 	Baseline + <u>1</u> <u>follow-up</u>	Ideal for smaller sample sizes Does not require the assumption of normality
(Pearson's) Chi- square test ^{8–11}	Yes Clinical relevance of the result is interpreted at the within-individual level (through a clinically relevant definition of a within- individual event or discrete outcomes)	No Between group: Discrete/binary outcome: Only indicates whether there is an association between treatment and frequency of their response, but does not indicate the magnitude of this association.	-Proportion (or percentage) of responders for each group -Odds/risk ratio	No Inclusion of covariates and stratification are not possible	Can only handle <u>non-informative</u> missingness Method provides valid inference only for MCAR. Listwise deletion/complete case analysis: Patients with no data at baseline and/or specific timepoint are not included in the analysis.	No - Does not cluster repeated assessments per patient - Does not take into account longitudinal nature of data	Baseline + <u>1</u> <u>follow-up</u>	Large data set is needed. Assumption of normality is required
(Cochran) Mantel- Haenszel test ^{12–15}	Yes Clinical relevance of the result is interpreted at the within-individual level (through a clinically relevant definition of a within-	Yes Between group: Discrete/binary outcome: Clinical	-Proportion (or percentage) of responders for each group	Limited Can only include stratification	Can only handle non-informative missingness	No - Does not cluster repeated assessments per patient	Baseline + <u>1</u> <u>follow-up</u>	

	individual event or discrete outcomes)	relevance of the difference between groups can be assessed using odd/risk ratio (with CI)	-Odds/risk ratio		Method provides valid inference only for MCAR. Listwise	- Does not take into account longitudinal nature of data		
					deletion/complete case analysis: Patients with no data at baseline and/or specific timepoint are not included in the analysis.			
Improvement / wors	ening (response): level of respo	onse at time t			1·1 /1	.1 .1 .)		
Maintenance: not ap	plicable (by definition of mainter	nance. For example, we ca	innot say "level of	maintenance is	higher/lower" in one arm v	s the other)	Pagalina	
mixed model (time	<u>1N0</u>	<u>1 es</u>		<u>1 es</u>	missingness	res	sufficient but	
as discrete - specific time point) ¹⁶	Clinical relevance of the result is not interpreted at the within-individual level, but as a change on the group level	Between group: Continuous outcome: Clinical relevance of the result can be assessed using the mean difference between the two groups at a specific time point (with CI) Within-group: Clinical relevance of the result can be assessed using an estimate assessing change within group (with CI) (i.e. main effect of time). *Clinical relevance of the estimated mean	-Mean baseline level (with CI) & mean specific time point level (with CI) for each group -Mean change between baseline and each assessed time point (with CI) for each group	Covariates and stratification can be included	Method provides valid inference when missing data are MCAR or MAR.	- Cluster of repeated assessments per patient - Order of measurements can be taken into account (i.e., covariance structure can be specified to take into account that measurements that are closer in time tend to have higher correlations)	limited # of follow-ups As the number of follow-up assessments increases, the number of parameters to estimate also increases	Since time is treated as discrete, a parameter needs to be estimated for every assessment over time. This is not ideal if there are too many follow-up assessments. Does not require an assumption regarding the relationship between time and outcome variable (e.g., assumption of a linear relationship). The assumption under MAR is that the treatment estimate is based on the assumption that patients will continue on treatment for the full study duration. ¹⁷

		difference (between group) and change (within-group) can be interpreted by comparison with effect size, or PROM- specific MID or interpretation guidelines, if available.						Generalized linear mixed models can be used for discrete, count or binary outcome.
(Generalized) linear mixed model (time as continuous) ¹⁶	No Clinical relevance of the result is not interpreted at the within-individual level, but as a change on the group level	Yes Between group: Continuous outcome: Clinical relevance of the result can be assessed using the mean difference between the two groups at a specific time point (with CI) Within-group: Clinical relevance of the result can be assessed using an estimate assessing change within group (with CI) (i.e. main effect of time). *Clinical relevance of the estimated mean difference (between group) and change (within-group) can be interpreted by	-Mean baseline level (with CI) & mean specific time point level (with CI) for each group -Rate of change between baseline and the specific time point (with CI)	Yes Covariates and stratification can be included	Can handle <u>informative</u> missingness Method provides valid inference when missing data are MCAR or MAR.	Yes - Cluster of repeated assessments per patient - Order of measurements can be taken into account (i.e., covariance structure can be specified to take into account that measurements that are closer in time tend to have higher correlations)	Baseline + <u>sufficient</u> # of follow-ups	May be suitable if there are many follow-up assessments and the relationship between time and outcome variable is linear. Since time is treated as continuous, only one parameter needs to be estimated regardless of the number of follow-up assessments over time. This implies a strong assumption that the influence of time on the outcome variable is linear. More complex models are available to assess non-linear relationships between time and outcome. For example, time is treated as continuous; and linear, quadratic and cubic polynomial terms may be used to approximate the time curves. But this also implies more

		comparison with effect size, or PROM- specific MID or interpretation guidelines, if available.						parameters to estimate and making strong assumptions regarding the non-linear relationship between time and the outcome variable.
								The assumption under MAR is that the treatment estimate is based on the assumption that patients will continue on treatment for the full study duration. ¹⁷
								Generalized linear mixed models can be used for discrete, count or binary outcome.
Generalized estimating equation	No	Yes		Yes	Can only handle	Yes	Time as continuous:	
	Clinical relevance of the result is not interpreted at the within-individual level, but as a change on the group level	Between group: Continuous outcome: Clinical relevance of the result can be	Continuous outcome: Mean baseline level (with CI) & mean	Covariates and stratification can be included	missingness Method provides valid inference only for MCAR.*	- Cluster of repeated assessments per patient	Baseline + <u>sufficient</u> # of follow-ups	Parameter estimates are consistent and asymptotically normal even under mis-
	the result can be assessed using the mean difference between the two e	specific time point level (with CI) for each group			- Order of measurements can be taken into account (i.e.,	Time as discrete:	specified correleation structure of responses. ²⁵	

		groups at a specific time point (with CI) Within-group: Clinical relevance of the result can be assessed using an estimate assessing change within group (with CI) (i.e. main effect of time). *Clinical relevance of the estimated mean difference (between group) and change (within-group) can be interpreted by comparison with effect size, or PROM- specific MID or interpretation guidelines, if available.	Ordinal/binary outcome: Odds ratio (with CI)		*Weighted GEE method is available to take into account MAR.	covariance structure can be specified to take into account that measurements that are closer in time tend to have higher correlations)	Baseline + sufficient but limited # of follow-ups As the number of follow-up assessments increases, the number of parameters to estimate also increases	Generalized estimating equations can be used for discrete, count or binary outcome.
Linear regression	No Clinical relevance of the result is not interpreted at the within-individual level, but as a change on the group level	Yes Between group: Continuous outcome: Clinical relevance of the result can be assessed using the mean difference between the two	Wilc	Yes Covariates and stratification can be included	Can only handle <u>non-informative</u> missingness Method provides valid inference only for MCAR. Listwise deletion/complete case	No - Does not cluster repeated assessments per patient - Does not take into account	Baseline + <u>1</u> <u>follow-up</u>	

		groups at a specific time point (with CI) *Clinical relevance of the estimated mean difference (between group) and change (within-group) can be interpreted by comparison with effect size, or PROM- specific MID or interpretation guidelines, if available.			analysis: Patients with no data at baseline and/or specific timepoint is not included in the analysis.	longitudinal nature of data		
ANOVA ¹⁶ or ANCOVA	No Clinical relevance of the result is not interpreted at the within-individual level, but as a change on the group level	No Between group: Continuous outcome: Indicates whether the difference between two groups is significantly different, but does not indicate how different they are.	-Mean baseline level (with CI) & mean specific time point level (with CI) for each group -Mean change between baseline and specific time point (with CI) for each group (if change score is used as outcome)	Yes Covariates and stratification can be included	Can only handle <u>non-informative</u> missingness Method provides valid inference only for MCAR. Listwise deletion/complete case analysis: Patients with no data at baseline and/or specific timepoint is not included in the analysis.	 <u>No</u> Does not cluster repeated assessments per patient Does not take into account longitudinal nature of data 	Baseline + <u>1</u> <u>follow-up</u>	
(Independent samples) t-test	No Clinical relevance of the result is not interpreted at the within-individual level, but	Yes Between group:	-Mean baseline level (with CI) &	No Inclusion of covariates and	Can only handle <u>non-informative</u> missingness	No - Does not cluster repeated	Baseline + <u>1</u> <u>follow-up</u>	Assumption of normal distribution is needed

	as a change on the group level	Continuous outcome: Clinical relevance of the result can be assessed using the mean difference between the two groups at a specific time point (with CI) *Clinical relevance of the estimated mean difference (between group) and change (within-group) can be interpreted by comparison with effect size, or PROM- specific MID or interpretation guidelines, if available.	mean specific time point level (with CI) for each group -Mean change between baseline and specific time point (with CI) for each group (if change score is used as outcome)	stratification are not possible	Method provides valid inference only for MCAR. Listwise deletion/complete case analysis: Patients with no data at baseline and/or specific timepoint is not included in the analysis.	assessments per patient - Does not take into account longitudinal nature of data		
Wilcoxon rank sum test	No Clinical relevance of the result is not interpreted at the within-individual level, but as a change on the group level	No Between group: Continuous outcome: Indicates whether the difference between two groups is significantly different, but does not indicate how different they are.	 Mean baseline level (with CI) & mean specific time point level (with CI) for each group Mean change between baseline and specific time point (with CI) for each group (if change 	No Inclusion of covariates and stratification are not possible	Can only handle <u>non-informative</u> missingness Method provides valid inference only for MCAR. Listwise deletion/complete case analysis: Patients with no data at baseline and/or specific timepoint is not included in the analysis.	No - Does not cluster repeated assessments per patient - Does not take into account longitudinal nature of data	Baseline + <u>1</u> <u>follow-up</u>	Does not assume normal distribution

			score is used as outcome)					
Pattern mixture model ^{26–28}	No	Yes		Yes	Can handle <u>informative</u> missingness	Yes	Time as continuous:	
	Clinical relevance of the result is not interpreted at the within-individual level, but as a change on the group level	Between group: Time as discrete: Clinical relevance of the result can be assessed using the difference in levels between the two groups at a specific time point (with CI) Time as continuous: Clinical relevance of the result can be assessed using the mean difference in the rate of change between groups at a specific time point (with CI) Within-group: Clinical relevance of the result can be assessed using an estimate assessing change within group (with CI) (i.e. main effect of time). *Clinical relevance of the estimated mean difference (between	-Mean baseline level (with CI) & mean specific time point level (with CI) for each group -Mean change between baseline and specific time point (with CI) for each group (if time is discrete) -Rate of change between baseline and specific time point (with CI) for each group (if time is continuous)	Covariates and stratification can be included	Method provides valid inference when missing data are MCAR or MAR. Method can take into account potential MNAR data -> missing values can be modeled (takes time of missingness as explanatory missing variable)	- Cluster of repeated assessments per patient - Order of measurements can be taken into account (i.e., covariance structure can be specified to take into account that measurements that are closer in time tend to have higher correlations)	Baseline + <u>sufficient</u> # of follow-ups Time as discrete: Baseline + <u>sufficient but</u> <u>limited</u> # of follow-ups As the number of follow-up assessments increases, the number of parameters to estimate also increases	Validity of the pattern mixture model depends on the choice of patterns which is often a subjective choice of the investigator and is not verifiable from the data ²⁷ . However it is often advised to use pattern mixture models as a sensitivity analysis. Investigators should have several sensitivity analyses performed over a variety of pattern choices (e.g., where each analysis has a different set of clinical assumptions regarding unobserved data) to ensure robustness of findings ^{26–28} Because of the many parameters to be estimated, time is often treated as continuous in this statistical model Generalized linear mixed models can be used for discrete, count or binary outcome.
		(within-group) can be						

		interpreted by comparison with effect size, or PROM- specific MID or interpretation guidelines, if available.						
Joint model for longitudinal and survival data ^{29–35}	No Clinical relevance of the result is not interpreted at the within-individual level, but as a change on the group level	Yes Between group: Continuous outcome: Clinical relevance of the result can be assessed using the mean difference in the rate of change between two groups at a specific time point (with CI) Within-group: Clinical relevance of the result can be assessed using an estimate assessing the rate of change within group (with CI) (i.e. main effect of time). *Clinical relevance of the estimated mean difference (between group) and change (within-group) can be interpreted by comparison with effect size, or PROM-	-Mean baseline level (with CI) & mean specific time point level (with CI) for each group -Rate of change between baseline and the specific time point (with CI)	Yes Covariates and stratification can be included	Can handle <u>informative</u> missingness Method provides valid inference when missing data are MCAR or MAR. Method can take into account potential MNAR data* -> missing values can be modeled (see comments)	Yes - Cluster of repeated assessments per patient - Order of measurements can be taken into account (i.e., covariance structure can be specified to take into account that measurements that are closer in time tend to have higher correlations)	Baseline + <u>sufficient</u> # of follow-ups	Joint modeling of longitudinal data and survival data. Possibility to account for informative patterns of missing data by jointly modeling the longitudinal PRO outcome (longitudinal process) and time to informative PRO dropout (survival data). ³⁶ Joint models rely on the conditional independence assumption (event process and longitudinal responses are independent conditionally on a latent process expressed by a set of random effects) ³³ Many parameters (such as the association between the longitudinal and the TTE process, baseline hazard function, random effects, defining the

		specific MID or interpretation guidelines, if available.						 'event' for the time to informative drop-out,) are to be specified ³⁴ and the model can be very computationally demanding ³¹. Because of the many parameters to be estimated, time is often treated as continuous in this statistical model Generalized linear mixed models can be used for discrete, count or binary outcome.
Overall effect: Descr	ribe trajectory of outcome over t	ime						
(Generalized) linear	No	No		Yes	Can handle informative	Yes	Baseline +	
mixed model (time as discrete -					missingness		sufficient but limited # of	
omnibus test): group*time interaction ^{16,37,38}	Clinical relevance of the result is not interpreted at the within-individual level, but	Between group:	-Mean baseline level (with CI) &	Covariates and stratification	Method provides valid inference when missing	- Cluster of repeated assessments per	follow-ups	Profiles are reported cross-sectionally and not longitudinally. That
	as a change on the group level	Assesses whether the mean response profiles between the	levels at each assessed time point (with CI)	can be included	data are MCAR or MAR.	patient	As the number of follow-up assessments	is, every assessment point has a mean and CI.
		two groups are statistically significantly different	for each group			- Order of measurements can be taken into	increases, the number of parameters to	If individual
		(non-parallel profiles), but does not provide	-Mean change between			account (i.e., covariance		longitudinal profiles are of interest, more

		an estimate of how different they are. Within-group: Assesses whether responses over time are statistically significantly different, but does not provide an estimate of how different they are	baseline and each assessed time point (with CI) for each group			structure can be specified to take into account that measurements that are closer in time tend to have higher correlations)	estimate also increases	complex models are available. For example, time is treated as continuous; and linear, quadratic and cubic polynomial terms may be used to approximate the time curves. Generalized linear mixed models can be used for discrete, count or binary outcome.
Repeated measures ANOVA: group*time interaction ^{16,37,38}	No Clinical relevance of the result is not interpreted at the within-individual level, but as a change on the group level	NoBetween group:Assesses whether the mean response profiles between the two groups are statistically significantly different (non-parallel profiles), but does not provide an estimate of how different they are.Within-group:Assesses whether responses over time	-Mean baseline level (with CI) & levels at each assessed time point (with CI) for each group -Mean change between baseline and each assessed time point (with CI) for each group	Yes Covariates and stratification can be included	Can only handle <u>non-informative</u> missingness Method provides valid inference when data are MCAR. Listwise deletion/complete case analysis: Patients with no data at baseline and/or any specific timepoint is not included in the analysis.	Limited - Cluster of repeated assessments per patient - Order of measurements cannot be taken into account (i.e., assumes compound symmetry for covariance structure, meaning covariance between pairs of assessments are equal regardless of the distance	Baseline + sufficient but limited # of follow-ups As the number of follow-up assessments increases, the number of parameters to estimate also increases	Profiles are reported cross-sectionally and not longitudinally. That is, every assessment point has a mean and CI.

are statistically	between	
significantly different,	occasions)	
but does not provide		
an estimate of how		
different they are.		

Table 4.a Survey Results on standardizing definitions for analysis population (intent-to-treat population and modified intent-to-treat population) (N=38)

Statement		Voting results		
Intent-to-treat population (ITT): The ITT population includes all the patients that were randomized to the study. According to the strict ITT principle, all randomized subjects should be analyzed according to the allocated treatment, regardless of the treatment actually received, protocol adherence, crossover to other treatments or withdrawal from the study.				
	Agree	37/38 (97%)		
	Don't know	1/38 (3%)		
Modified intent-to-treat population (mITT): Acceptable modifications to the Intent-To-Treat (ITT) population for the analysis of PRO data in randomized controlled trials (multiple answers possible)				
	Analysis population could be limited to patients with baseline PRO assessment	12/38 (32%)		
	Analysis population could be limited to patients with at least one post-baseline PRO assessment	6/38 (16%)		
	Analysis population could be limited to patients with baseline + at least one post-baseline PRO assessment	17/38 (45%)		
	Analysis population could be limited to eligible patients	9/38 (24%)		
	No modification to the ITT population is appropriate (the analysis population should be all randomized patients, analyzed according to the allocated treatment)	6/38 (16%)		
	Analysis population could be limited to the safety population (patients exposed to their intended treatment only)	4/38 (11%)		
	Analysis population could be limited to patients exposed to any protocol treatment	4/38 (11%)		
	Other (To specify) Patients who consent to PRO substudy Depends on the study objective 	4/38 (11%) □ 1/38 (3%) □ 3/38 (8%) 5/38 (13%)		
		5/50 (15/0)		

Statement	Voting results		
Fixed and variable denominator rate:			
 a) Fixed denominator rate – a rate with a denominator that stays the same over time (e.g. total number of enrolled patients) b) Variable denominator rate – a rate with a variable denominator at every time point (e.g. number of expected patients at time t) 			
□ Both the fixed denominator rate and the variable denominator rate are needed	26/38 (68%)		
 Only the variable denominator rate is needed 	6/38 (16%)		
 Only the fixed denominator rate is needed 	2/38 (5%)		
 Other (To specify) Both + cohort plots Both + additional information related to the attrition Both can, but is not a 'must' Variable denominator rate + death rate 	4/38 (11%) □ 1/38 (3%) □ 1/38 (3%) □ 1/38 (3%) □ 1/38 (3%)		
Fixed denominator rate: Numerator			
 On-study patients submitting the PRO assessment at the designated time point 	32/38 (84%)		
□ On-study patients submitting the PRO assessment at baseline AND at the designated time point	4/38 (11%)		
□ Other: Patients submitting any part of the PRO assessment at the designated time point	1/38 (3%)		
Don't know	1/38 (3%)		
Fixed denominator rate: Denominator			
Randomized patients (ITT population)	21/38 (55%)		
Patients with a PRO baseline assessment	6/38 (16%)		
Enrolled patients	2/38 (5%)		
\Box Eligible patients ¹	2/38 (5%)		

Table 4.b. Survey results on standardizing calculation and definition of completion (variable denominator) and available data (fixed denominator) rates.

¹It was not specified in the survey whether this is patients (in)eligible for the PRO (sub)study or patients (in)eligible for the full study

	Safety population (patients who received intended treatment)	1/38 (3%)	
	Other o Depends on analysis population: ITT or mITT o Depends on study objective o ITT minus patients not eligible for PRO assessment	4/38 (11%) □ 2 (5%) □ 1 (3%) □ 1 (3%)	
	Don't know	2/38 (5%)	
Fixed denominator rate: Terminology			
	Completion rate	20/38 (53%)	
	Compliance rate	8/38 (21%)	
	Other	6/38 (16%)	
	Don't know/N.A.	4/38 (11%)	
Variable denominator rate: Numerator			
	On-study patients submitting the PRO assessment at the designated time point	30/38 (79%)	
	On-study patients submitting the PRO assessment at baseline AND at the designated time point	6/38 (16%)	
	Don't know	2/38 (5%)	
Variable denominator rate: Denominator			
(defin	ing who the "available patients at time t" are)		
	Patients who have died prior to assessment time t to be excluded from the denominator	34/38 (89%)	
	Patients not on study anymore to be excluded from the denominator	27/38 (71%)	
	Patients no longer part of the PRO assessment schedule (according to protocol) to be excluded from the denominator	24/38 (63%)	
	Ineligible patients ^{Error! Bookmark not defined.} to be excluded from the denominator	19/38 (50%)	
	Patients not on treatment anymore to be excluded from the denominator	10/38 (26%)	
	Patients illiterate in the language of the PRO tool to be excluded from the denominator	10/38 (26%)	
	Patients without a valid PRO baseline assessment to be excluded from the denominator	7/38 (18%)	

	Patients who cannot be reached at the time of the visit to be excluded from the denominator	4/38 (11%)
	Patients refusing to respond the PRO assessment to be excluded from the denominator	3/38 (8%)
	 Other to be excluded from the denominator Patients not meeting the clinically significant change criterion Patients without valid PRO baseline assessment or not, depending on the situation 	2/38 (5%) □ 1/38 (3%) □ 1/38 (3%)
Variable denominator rate: Terminology		
	Completion rate	9/38 (24%)
	Compliance rate	17/38 (45%)
	Other	7/38 (18%)
	Don't know/N.A.	5/38 (13%)

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