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Using the STarT back tool: Does timing of stratification matter?

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Introduction

Attempts to target treatment for nonspecific LBP patients have proved problematic. Numerous approaches have been devised including exploring patient and condition based characteristics associated with outcomes (Leboeuf-Yde et al, 2009), formal clinical prediction rule construction (Flynn et al, 2002) and a priori screening tools including recently the STarT Back Tool (SBT) (Hill et al, 2008). This device, designed for intended use in clinical practice was based on the knowledge that much nonspecific low back pain appears to include psychological components as well as musculoskeletal aspects to the experience of pain and disability and that these can provide barriers to recovery.

The literature concerning the identification of individuals with nsLBP at risk of not improving and the wherewithal to ameliorate such risks has been disappointing with various authors reporting few and/or inconsistent modifiable baseline prognostic factors in this population. In particular for patients undergoing chiropractic care one of the only robust predictors of outcome has been shown to be early change in symptomatology (Axen et al, 2005; Larsen and LeBoeuf-Yde, 2005; Rubinstein et al, 2008; Newell and Field, 2007). Studies such as Childs et al (2004) that did demonstrate predictive model consistency in patients undergoing physiotherapy were not able to maintain that consistency outside the original study population (Hancock et al, 2008).

32 Current guidelines for the treatment of nsLBP describe several treatments found to be
33 generally helpful for this condition (NICE, 2009). However they are not helpful in deciding
34 which of these may be more appropriate for any particular patient. The SBT has been
35 developed to help clinicians direct nsLBP patient towards appropriate and cost effective
36 care at their initial presentation. The SBT groups patients into three risk categories termed
37 Low, Medium and High, identifying in turn those most suited for minimal intervention,
38 manual therapy and manual therapy plus psychological . Stratification into targeted
39 treatment using this tool as an initial screen has been shown to result in more favourable
40 outcomes in comparison to treatments as chosen by an experienced physiotherapist (Hill et
41 al, 2011). Because this tool identifies modifiable risk factor there remains the potential that
42 such factors may vary early in treatment and so the risk group categorisation will alther. The
43 SBT is recommended in recent guidance on developing care pathways for back pain and is
44 being increasingly used within the UK and elsewhere (British Pain Society, 2012)

45 However, following promising initial results some studies have highlighted potential
46 problems when investigating the generalisability and utility of this tool in different nsLBP
47 patient groups and settings.

48 For example Fritz et al, (2011) looked at the prognostic performance of this tool in nsLBP
49 subjects in a military personnel population and found that although high risk patients
50 displayed higher initial pain and disability scores compared to the other categories there
51 was little if any difference in outcomes at follow up during routine physical therapy
52 treatment.

53 Similarly, our previous study (Field and Newell, 2012) investigated the prognostic utility of
54 the SBT in a population of nsLBP patients undergoing chiropractic management and found
55 that despite initial and expected baseline differences in severity of patient symptomatology
56 across SBT risk groups, all groups of patients subsequently recovered equally at short,
57 medium and longer term follow up. One of the potential explanations for this result was that
58 it may be more difficult to assess who may recover because of multiple idiosyncratic factors
59 to the patient that are unknown before treatment starts. However, we have suggested,
60 along with others, that early change in symptomatology may provide a better insight into the
61 patient's likely prognostic trajectory (Axen et al, 2005; Bolton and Hurst, 2011).

62 In this context is is possible that SBT categorisation at baseline may fail to assign
63 appropriate treatment wheas assignment following a short delay may more successfully
64 predict final outcomes than when collected at presentation.

65 Our question therefore was, in nsLBP patients undergoing manual therapy as provided by
66 chiropractors does administering the SBT post the first treatment provide better prediction
67 of outcomes than administration at initial presentation?

68

69 **Methodology**

70 Data for this observational, prospective cohort study was collected between 1st February
71 and 17th August 2012 from eleven chiropractic clinics in the UK. These clinics routinely
72 collect clinical outcomes using an automated web based collection system (Care Response;
73 <https://www.care-response.com/CareResponse/home.aspx>)

74

75 *Subjects and Procedure*

76 Consecutive patients aged over 16 presenting to one of the clinics with nonspecific LBP
77 (nsLBP) and diagnosed as amenable to chiropractic care are routinely asked, as part of
78 normal practice, to complete pre-examination forms including the Bournemouth
79 Questionnaire (BQ) (Bolton and Breen, 1999). Patients can either complete these forms at
80 the clinic or online before their first visit. For this study only those patients completing these
81 routine forms online were invited to be part of this study.

82 These participants, via a web page, were presented with background information on the
83 study and a consent form when they completed the pre-examination forms described
84 above. Baseline data consisted of patient characteristics and condition specific parameters
85 as well as the SBT. Two days after the first appointment these subjects were asked via e-
86 mail to complete a second SBT online.

87 The SBT (Appendix I) contains nine questions related to physical and psychosocial factors
88 that have been identified as strong independent predictors for persistent disabling
89 LBP. SBT overall scores (ranging from 0 to 9) are determined by summing all positive
90 responses and SBT psychosocial subscale scores (ranging from 0 to 5) are determined by
91 summing items related to bothersomeness, fear, catastrophising, anxiety, and depression.
92 Based on overall and psychosocial subscale scoring, the SBT categorizes patients as 'high-
93 risk' (psychosocial subscale scores ≥ 4) in which high levels of psychosocial prognostic
94 factors are present with or without physical factors, 'medium-risk' (overall score >3 ;
95 psychosocial subscale score <4) in which physical and psychosocial factors are present,
96 but not a high level of psychosocial factors, or 'low-risk' (overall score 0-3) in which few
97 prognostic factors are present (Hill et al, 2008).

98 Practitioners were blinded to patients STarT Back scores and their participation in the study
99 and provided chiropractic care as they considered appropriate and not as defined by the
100 SBT categorization.

101 *Outcomes*

102 In these practices, patients who start treatment are emailed outcome assessment
103 questionnaires consisting of the BQ and a Patient's Global Impression of Change (PGIC), at
104 14, 30 and 90 days following their initial visit. In this study the dichotomised PGIC was the
105 primary outcome measure.

106 The BQ is a validated patient reported outcome measure (PROM) consisting of seven 11-
107 point numerical rating scales (0–10) each covering a different aspect of the back pain

108 experience. These were (i) pain; (ii) disability in activities of daily living; (iii) disability in social
109 activity; (iv) anxiety; (v) depression; (vi) fear avoidance behavior; and (vii) locus of control.
110 Subscales are summed to produce a total BQ score (maximum of 70). (Bolton and Breen,
111 1999)

112 Using the Patients' Global Impression of Change (PGIC) Scale (Appendix II), patients are
113 asked 'How would you describe your pain/complaint now, compared to how you were when
114 you completed the questionnaire before your first visit to this clinic?' The scale ranges from
115 1 (worse than ever) to 7 (very much improved). This outcome was dichotomized for each of
116 the follow up points with improvement being defined by a PGIC response of better or much
117 better (score of ≥ 6) (Newell and Bolton, 2010).

118 The BQ and PGIC have been recommended as preferred measurements by the 'Any
119 Qualified Provider Resource Centre' (UK, NHS) for monitoring outcomes in low back pain
120 patients (UK DoH, 2012)

121 We also collected data on the number of visits completed at each follow up time point.

122 *Analysis*

123 Descriptive statistics were calculated for baseline characteristics as a group and across
124 SBT categories pre and post the initial visit. Comparisons across SBT categories for each
125 stratification point were achieved using a Kruskal Wallance Test for number of visits, pain
126 and total BQ scores, ANOVA for age and Pearson χ^2 for all categorical variables.

127 To determine any associations between SBT categorisation and the primary outcome
128 univariate logistic regression analysis was carried out using the SBT categorisation as the
129 independent variable and the dichotomised PGIC as dependent variables at each of the
130 follow up time points.

131 Adjusted models for predicting favourable outcome as defined by the PGIC were
132 constructed with an entry criterion for significant baseline and follow up variables of $p < 0.15$
133 and retention at $p < 0.05$ using a binary logistic analysis forward LR procedure. This was
134 carried out for all follow up points.

135 Descriptive statistics were also used to show the proportion of patients that had changed
136 risk groups in the two days between SBT sub grouping at baseline and SBT sub grouping
137 two days after the initial visit. Odds for improving for those patients that deteriorated,
138 improved or a combination of both (changed) versus those that did not change SBT
139 categorisation post initial treatment were also calculated.

140 All statistical analyses were performed using statistical software SPSS (v20.0, SPSS Inc.,
141 Chicago IL).

142

143 *Ethics*

144 Ethics for this study were sought and approved by the Research and Ethics subcommittee
145 of the Anglo-European College of Chiropractic.

146 **Results**

147 Seven hundred and forty-nine subjects consented to and filled out baseline questionnaires.

148 After initial categorisation at baseline, 39%, 37% and 24% were defined as low, medium or
149 high-risk subgroups respectively. Two days after the initial visit, SBT categorisation resulted
150 in near identical figures in each subgroup respectively, although as shown later (Table 6)
151 these individuals may not have been the same from one categorisation to the next.

152 Just over half of the cohort was female as was the percentage that reported pain for more
153 than 30 days in the year. The duration of the present episode was largely constituted by
154 those presenting with < 1 month or greater than 3 months pain with only 10% between 1
155 and 3 months duration. Around a third reported pain above the knee while 12% reported
156 pain below the knee (Table 1)

157
158 The numbers of treatments received at each of the follow up outcome points compared
159 between SBT categories as defined post visit are shown in Table 2. In general the high-risk
160 patients received a significantly greater mean number of treatments at 14 and 30 days
161 follow up despite the fact that in this study the practitioners were not aware of the SBT
162 categorisation. By 90 days however there were no statistical differences in treatment
163 numbers

164 Table 3 shows the characteristics of the SBT groups as stratified at the initial and post initial
165 visits. Although there were no differences between the two categorisation points there were,
166 not surprisingly, significant differences between SBT categories within categorisation time
167 points with high risk groups being older, with higher severity scores, more leg pain and a
168 greater proportion of acute presentation.

169 The clinical progression of these groups over the course of clinical management is similar
170 whether they were stratified by the SBT at initial or post the initial visit (Figure 1). Both in
171 terms of pain and total BQ scores the low risk groups changed the least while the medium
172 and high-risk groups changed the most. Patients categorized by the SBT at 2 different time
173 points (initial and post initial visit) behaved differently across the risk groups in terms of
174 change scores Interestingly it was high risk group patients that displayed the biggest
175 change scores when categorized by the SBT at the initial visit while in contrast the biggest
176 change was seen in the medium risk group when categorized post the initial visit although
177 this was not statistically significant in either case.

178 Table 4 shows the odds of improvement of patients compared between SBT subgroups as
179 defined at initial and post initial visit time points. Generally there was no difference in the
180 prognostic ability of the SBT regardless of whether categorisation was before or after the
181 initial visit with both explanation of variation in outcome (Nagelkerke) and ability to
182 discriminate between those improving from those that did not (ROC) being below 5% or

183 below 0.75 respectively. Overall, the medium risk group fared the best in this cohort being
184 around twice as likely to improve than low risk groups. High-risk groups on the other hand
185 were no less likely to improve than low risk groups.

186 A multivariate analysis of all baseline and follow up PGIC categorisations (Table 5) revealed
187 different predictors for improvement at each of the follow up points. These consisted of
188 shorter duration, absence of pain above the knee and less than 30 days pain in the
189 previous year predicting favourable outcomes at 14 days follow up. In contrast, at 30 days
190 follow up, improvement at 14 days was strongly associated with improvement together with
191 being female and being ranked in the SBT medium risk group 2 days following the initial
192 treatment

193 At 90 days however, only past improvement at 14 and 30 days were associated with
194 favourable outcomes suggesting that early change dominated the likelihood of improving at
195 the 3-month follow up. Interestingly the only SBT contribution to predicting improvement at
196 14 days follows up was the post initial visit categorisation, again perhaps indicating early
197 change as being better indicators of a favourable outcome.

198 Finally an exploration was carried out to ascertain the potential lability of SBT subgroup
199 categorisation over the time period from categorisation at the initial visit compared with
200 those 2 days following the initial visit (Table 6).

201 Around the same proportion of subjects deteriorated and improved during this time period
202 with, in total, over a third of patients changing SBT subgroups during the period between
203 just before and 2 days post the initial treatment. This may reflect the lability of the SBT, the
204 condition itself, some impact of the first visit or all three, although treatment effects must
205 remain entirely speculative with this design.

206 However, there was no consistent difference between those that deteriorated or improved in
207 their subsequent improvement at each of the follow up times although in general those that
208 deteriorated one SBT category did slightly better at follow up than those that stayed the
209 same compared to those that improved one SBT category.

210 During the course of the study, there was a 58% drop out of respondents at 90 days. An
211 analysis of baseline characteristics of respondents compared to non-respondents found no
212 significant differences at 14 and 30 days follow up. However, at 90 days some
213 characteristics were significantly different with respondents being slightly older (46.2 versus
214 49.9), more likely to be a returning patient and less chronic than non respondents.

215 **Discussion**

216 With spiraling health costs in chronic conditions generally (The Health Foundation 2011)
217 and little remittance in the cost of LBP specifically (Becker et al, 2010), there remains a
218 need for guidance as to which patients might benefit from specific targeted intervention,
219 despite general guidance concerning the range of treatments available (NICE, 2009). Given
220 that a large number of LBP patient are routinely categorised as non specific in nature,

221 ascertaining cause is problematic as a guide to targeted treatment whereas broad
222 screening using tools such as the SBT may prove more useful.

223 In addition, effective targeting may help to curb unnecessary and inappropriate use of high
224 cost pathways for those that need minimal intervention, and in this respect the SBT has
225 been shown to provide a method of guiding a potentially large group of nsLBP patients (low
226 risk) toward low cost management. In the case of this study for example, nearly two fifths of
227 the patients fall into the low risk category. It also potentially provides further guidance by
228 invoking the differential of increasing psychological overlay to define high from medium risk
229 patients.

230 However, the prediction of outcome in the nsLBP population under care has been
231 disappointing when restricted to baseline characteristics with shorter duration of condition
232 being one of the few consistent predictors of favourable outcome (Leboeuf-Yde et al, 2009).
233 This is also apparent in this study but only for short-term prognosis. Emerging evidence
234 however, suggests that early changes in condition specific characteristics maybe be more
235 helpful in determining the eventual improvement or otherwise of patients attending for
236 chiropractic treatment (Axen et al, 2005; Bolton and Hurst, 2011). Given the absence of any
237 strong association between SBT stratification categories and follow up patient status when
238 categorised at baseline (Field and Newell, 2012), this study explored the possibility that
239 stratifying patients early after treatment had started might prove to be more useful in
240 predicting outcome.

241 The results suggest that although the majority of patients did well irrespective of the
242 subgroup they were placed in by the SBT, univariate analysis indicated that medium risk
243 groups as categorised at baseline and post initial visit do better at short to medium follow up
244 than the other risk groups. However, after adjusting for other baseline and follow up
245 variables, only the post visit SBT categorisations display significant association with
246 differential outcomes, with again the medium risk group improving more than the other
247 groups at 30 days follow up.

248 Bolstering results reported previously (Axen et al, 2011), both 30 and 90 days improvement
249 was dominated by favourable change in the previous follow up points, although at 30 days
250 follow up females tended to do better than males.

251 The change in SBT categorisation of patients over a short time period is the first to our
252 knowledge to be reported. Surprisingly, in the 2 days between initial and post visit
253 categorisation over 1/3 of patients swapped risk groups with around equal numbers
254 improving or deteriorating. When these groups were followed up there was little difference
255 in improvement status compared to those individuals that maintained their SBT risk
256 categorisation. A further unexpected results was that those who had deteriorated were
257 more likely to improve at 30 days, albeit only small numbers of patients. This raises
258 questions as to when the SBT is best administered if it is to be used as a clinical decision
259 making aid.

260 In this population, SBT categorisation was associated with the number of treatment
261 sessions patients were likely to receive during the first month of care but not at 90 days.

262 Given the theory underlying the SBT subgrouping that those in the medium risk group have
263 largely physical barriers to recovery whilst those in the high risk group have more complex
264 barriers including psychological factors, this study's findings that those in the medium risk
265 group did better than the high risk group when presenting to manual therapists is
266 unsurprising. That the medium risk group did better than those categorised as having few
267 barriers to recovery (low risk) is unexpected. Reasons for this can only remain conjecture,
268 however, although the lower number of treatments provide to them may be significant.

269 As with the previous paper by these authors this study found no difference between
270 individuals categorised as high and low risk. One possible reason suggested is that the
271 psychological risk factors contributing to the high-risk score are being effectively targeted by
272 the chiropractors (Foster et al, 2013)

273 Study Limitations

274 This population of patients were those self referring for chiropractic care and may not be
275 entirely representative of the wider nsLBP population. In addition, despite large numbers
276 this was a geographically focused set of clinics in the south of the UK, again limiting the
277 generalizability of these results.

278 In addition, drop out rates over the course of the study, particularly at 90 days follow up may
279 bias the outcomes, limiting the interpretation of this time point.

280

281

282 Conclusion

283 During chiropractic treatment for nsLBP patients the medium risk category patients were
284 more likely to improve in the short to medium term compared to the other risk groups
285 regardless of the timing of the SBT stratification. However, following adjustment with other
286 baseline variables only the post visit SBT categorisation remained as a predictor of
287 outcome, albeit only at 30 days follow up.

288 Multivariate models were dominated by condition status at previous time points indicating
289 that early change in symptomatology has a far greater influence on future prognosis than
290 status at baseline.

291 Stratification using the SBT is somewhat unstable over the very short term with over one
292 third of patients changing SBT status in a short time window.

293 Further work is indicated to increase understanding of the impact of timing of SBT
294 categorisation on its usefulness in stratifying patient's to differing care pathways.

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365 Table 1: Descriptive analysis of initial variables for whole cohort

366	Continuous Variables	Mean (SD)
367	Mean Age (SD)	47.8 (13.9)
368	Mean Pain (SD)	6.4 (2.0)
369	Mean BQ Total (SD)	34.3 (16.4)
370		
371	Categorical Variables	Proportion (%)
372	Female	56.5%
373	Seen Practitioner before	24.5%
374	New patient	69.1%
375	Leg Pain	
376	Above the knee	33.0%
377	Below the knee	12.4%
378		
379	>30 days pain in year	55.2%
380	Recurring	66.5%
381		
382	Duration	
383	< 1 month	43.2%
384	1-3 months	10.0%
385	>3 months	46.6%
386	SBT Baseline	
387	Low	39.1%
388	Medium	36.8%
389	High	23.7%
390		
391	SBT 2 Days Post Initial Treatment	
392	Low	39.0%
393	Medium	36.8%
394	High	24.2%

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413 Table 2: Numbers of visits at outcome points across SBT groups as defined post visit

	14 days*	30 days*	90 days
	Mean (SD)	Mean (SD)	Mean (SD)
SBT Group			
LOW	2.6 (1.2)	3.7 (1.9)	4.2 (2.4)
MEDIUM	3.0 (1.3)	4.0 (1.9)	4.6 (3.0)
HIGH	3.1 (1.3)	4.4 (2.1)	5.1 (2.7)

420 *= p<0.001 for Kruskal Wallace between SBT categories at each follow up point

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462 Table 3: Baseline variables across SBT categories measured at initial (IT) and 2 days post-initial
463 treatment (PT)

Variables	SBT Category
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	Low		Medium		High
			<i>p value</i>		
	IT (n=282)	PT (n=285)	IT (n=268)	PT (n=264)	IT
(n=166)	PT (n=167)		IT	PT	
Mean (SD)					
Age	47.1(15.1)	46.2 (15.0)	46.8 (12.5)	47.6 (12.7)	50.5
(13.8)	50.4 (15.5)		**	**	
Pain	5.3 (2.0)	5.4 (2.1)	6.8 (1.8)	6.8 (1.7)	7.5 (1.5)
	7.4 (1.5)		**	**	
BQ Total	25.1(13.4)	26.0 (13.5)	37.7(13.7)	37.5 (14.9)	44.4
(16.6)	43.0 (16.3)		**	**	
Proportion (%)					
Female	56.8	54.9	57.4	59.6	54.5
	54.4				
Seen Practitioner before	28.9	27.6	24.2	21.7	17.4
	23.6		*		
Is new patient	66.0	65.2	69.0	73.3	74.7
	69.2				
Leg Pain					
Above the knee	23.5	23.9	36.8	40.1	43.3
	36.8		*	*	
Below the knee	8.8	9.6	10.8	14.1	20.8
	14.3		*		
>30 days pain in year	58.8	58.0	52.0	55.2	55.1
	50.5				
Recurring	69.4	69.6	67.5	66.8	61.2
	61.0				
Duration					
< 1 month	36.7	36.5	50.2	45.8	43.8
	50.0		*	*	
1-3 months	13.6	12.3	5.8	9.4	10.7
	7.1				
>3 months	49.7	51.2	44.0	44.4	45.5
	41.8				

*p<0.05 (Chi² test for trend), **p<0.01 (Kruskal-Wallis), SD = Standard Deviation, BQ = Bournemouth Questionnaire

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Table 4: Predicting improvement using SBT at initial (IT) and 2 days post initial treatment (PT)

	14 days (n= 542)	30 days (n=416)	90 days (n=318)
	OR (95% CI)	OR (95% CI)	OR (95% CI)
SBT BASELINE			
Low	1.0	1.0	1.0
Medium	1.6 (1.1 to 2.5)	1.6 (1.0 to 2.6)	1.1 (0.6 to 2.1)
High	1.1 (0.7 to 1.8)	0.8 (0.5 to 1.3)	0.8 (0.4 to 1.6)
Nagelkerke	0.015	0.022	0.004
AUC	0.56 (0.51 to 0.61)	0.57 (0.51 to 0.63)	0.53 (0.45 to 0.61)
	14 days (n=545)	30 days (n=418)	90 days (n=318)
	OR (95% CI)	OR (95% CI)	OR (95% CI)
SBT POST VISIT			
Low	1.0	1.0	1.0
Medium	1.2 (0.8 to 1.8)	1.8 (1.1 to 3.0)	1.4 (0.7 to 2.7)
High	1.3 (0.8 to 2.0)	1.0 (0.6 to 1.6)	1.6 (0.7 to 3.4)
Nagelkerke	0.004	0.024	0.01
AUC	0.53 (0.48 to 0.58)	0.57 (0.51 to 0.63)	0.55 (0.47 to 0.63)

PGIC = Patient Global Impression of Change; SBT = STarT Back Tool; OR= Odds Ratio; AUC= Area under the curve, Bold= significant at p<0.05

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Table 5: Results of multivariate* analysis for predicting improvement at 14, 30 and 90 days following initial visit

Follow up point	Variables in the equation Nagelkerke R ²	OR (95% CI)	ROC AUC (95% CI)
14 days (n=545)			0.70 (0.66 to 0.75)
	0.16		
	Pain above the knee (NO)	1.7 (1.2 to 2.5)	
	>30 days pain in year (NO)	2.3 (1.4 to 3.6)	
	Duration		
	> 3 months	1.0	
	1-3 months	2.5 (1.3 to 4.9)	
	< 1 month	2.2 (1.4 to 3.6)	
30 days (n=367)			0.82 (0.77 to 0.87)
	0.37		
	Improved at 14 days (PGIC)	12.3 (7.3 to 21.0)	
	Gender (Female)	1.7 (1.0 to 3.0)	
	SBT Ranking Post Treatment		
	Low	1.0	
	Medium	2.0 (1.1 to 3.8)	
	High	0.9 (0.4 to 1.7)	
90 days (n=241)			0.84 (0.78 to
0.91)	0.41		
	Improved at 14 days (PGIC)	4.4 (1.9 to 10.2)	
	Improved at 30 days (PGIC)	8.7 (3.7 to 20.4)	

* All baseline variables and SBT ranking categories at initial and post initial visit were included

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Table 6: Proportion of patients changing SBT risk groups between initial and two days post initial visit and odds of subsequent improvement at follow up

in each change group		Proportion* (%)	Proportion (%) improved at follow up	
		Post-initial visit (N)	14 days (Total N)	30 days (Total N)
90 days (Total N)				
Deteriorated				
Low-Medium		7.3 (55)	57 (37)	80 (20)
	94 (16)			
Low-High		3.2 (24)	71 (21)	87 (15)
	92 (13)			
Medium-High		6.2 (47)	76 (34)	77 (26)
	89 (18)			
Total deteriorated		16.7 (126)		
			Odds [OR (95% CI)] of improved	
(PGIC) if increased SBT risk group				
			1.2 (0.7 to 2.0) 2.0 (1.1 to 4.0)§	
in each change group		Proportion* (%)	Proportion (%) improved at follow up	
		Post-initial visit (N)	14 days (Total N)	30 days (Total N)
90 days (Total N)				
Improved				
Medium-Low		8.8 (66)	67 (43)	70 (40)
	75 (28)			
High-Low		1.6(12)	78 (9)	80 (5)
	80 (5)			
High-Medium		7.6 (57)	59 (44)	71 (35)
	74 (31)			
Total improved		18.0 (135)		
			Odds [OR (95% CI)] of improved	
(PGIC) if reduced SBT risk group				
			1.0 (0.7 to 1.7) 1.2 (0.7 to 2.0)	
0.6 (0.3 to 1.2)				
Total any change		34.7 (261)		
			Odds [OR (95% CI)] of improved	
(PGIC) if any change in SBT risk group				
			1.1 (0.8 to 1.7) 1.6 (1.0 to 2.6)	
1.1 (0.6 to 2.0)				

* Proportion of the patients that had changed SBT categories at post initial visit SBT categorisation: § = < 5 in one cell