

# Intro to ePRO – Part I

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December 17, 2014

# Agenda



- Overview of the ePRO Consortium and modes of administration (~20min)
- Discuss trends with collecting clinical data electronically (~20min)
- Q&A (~15min)

# Critical Path Institute (C-Path)



- Established in 2005 by the University of Arizona and the FDA's Center for Drug Evaluation and Research (CDER)
- Dedicated to implementing FDA's *Critical Path Initiative* - a strategy for transforming the way FDA-regulated products are developed, evaluated, manufactured, and used
- An independent, non-profit organization
- Provides a neutral, pre-competitive venue for collaboration aimed at accelerated development of safe and effective medical products

# ePRO Consortium



The Critical Path Institute established the ePRO Consortium on April 1, 2011

Mission: To advance the quality, practicality, and acceptability of electronic data capture (EDC) methods used in clinical trials for PRO endpoint assessment



# Benefits of Collaboration



A coordinated approach to gathering evidence supporting the measurement equivalence of the various ePRO modes

Collective development of ePRO migration best practices

- Methodological guidance on ePRO implementation in clinical trials (e.g., mixing modes within a trial)
- Development of publicly available specification documents for migrating specific PRO instruments to available ePRO platforms

# PRO Consortium



Formed in late 2008 by C-Path, in cooperation with the FDA's CDER and the pharma industry

- Membership
  - 27 members (pharmaceutical firms) in 2014
- Non-Voting Participants
  - Representatives of governmental agencies (FDA, EMA, NIH)
  - Clinical consultants, academic researchers, patients, and CROs partnering in the development and testing of PRO instruments

# PRO Consortium: Goals



- Develop qualified, publicly available PRO instruments for use in the assessment of primary or secondary clinical trial endpoints
- Enable pre-competitive collaboration that includes FDA input and expertise
- Avoid development of multiple PRO instruments for the same purpose
- Share costs of developing new PRO instruments
- Facilitate FDA's review of medical products by standardizing PRO endpoints



**Objective:** To produce and/or compile the necessary evidence to enable new or existing PRO instruments to be qualified by the FDA for use in clinical trials where PRO endpoints can be used to support product labeling claims.

- Asthma
- Cognition
- Depression
- Functional Dyspepsia
- Irritable Bowel Syndrome
- Rheumatoid Arthritis
- Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer

## ***Clinical outcome assessment*** (COAs)

- Patient-reported outcome assessments (PROs)
- Clinician-reported outcome assessments (ClinROs)
- Observer-reported outcome assessments (ObsROs)
- Performance outcome assessments (PerfOs)

***A patient-reported outcome*** (PRO) is any report of the status of a patient's health condition that comes directly from the patient, without interpretation of the patient's response by a clinician or anyone else.

A PRO instrument is used to measure ***treatment benefit*** or risk in medical product clinical trials.

# The Problem with Patient Satisfaction



Not part of FDA regulatory authority

21 CFR 314.126—“purpose of conducting clinical investigations of a drug is to distinguish between the effect of a drug from other influences...”

Pharma cares a lot—FDA sees no implication for labeling, particularly when the goal is comparative

# The Problem with Health-Related Quality-of-Life (HRQoL)



Might reflect treatment benefit, but not useful in the absence of a measure of core symptoms

Problems in generating labeling claims

- Logically distal outcomes
- Unclear expectations about change across duration of trial

Often risky strategy, better left to exploratory outcomes

# Modes of Administration

- **Paper**
  - Digital Pen
- **Screen-based** – use an app or web interface
  - Handheld
  - Tablet
  - Desktop and Laptop Computers
- **Telephone-based**
  - Interactive Voice Response (IVR)

# Improvements in Data Collection



Advantages of ePRO instruments over paper-based instruments

- contain the paper tornado
- avoid manual data entry and database creation
- more accurate and complete data

Benefits that do not exist on paper

- seamless skip logic, real-time edit checks, calculations, and alarms

May increase participation of subjects from typically underrepresented groups, such as those of lower income or lower literacy

# Benefits of Electronic Data Capture



Allows the potential for event-driven data collection

- Concatenated items
- Complex items

Adaptive design

- Immediate data availability for decisions
- Monitor compliance

Enables real time compliance monitoring

Permits PRO data integration to eCRF

# Recent ePRO-based Labeling Claims



## Jakafi® - Incyte Corporation (2011)

- Myelofibrosis Symptom Assessment Form (MFSAF) v2.0 handheld diary

Secondary endpoint – comparison of proportion of subjects with a 50% or greater reduction in total symptom score

## Subsys® - insys Therapeutics, Inc. (2012)

- Visual Analogue Scale handheld diary

Primary endpoint – mean sum of pain intensity differences at 30 minutes (after administration)

## Linzess™ - Ironwood Pharmaceuticals & Forest Laboratories (2012)

- 11-point NRS of Abdominal Pain at its Worst - IVRS

Co-primary endpoint – along with Complete Spontaneous Bowel Movements



# Is there a downside to ePRO?



Disadvantages of ePRO instruments over paper-based instruments:

- High technical and training burden on site and/or monitoring staff
- Management of eSource rather than more familiar paper source
- Data integration may occur outside of the clinical data system
- Unable to offer a paper back-up when employing skip logic, adaptive algorithms, etc.

May selectively decrease participation by subjects from unidentified subsets

# Considerations for ePRO Migrations



## Infrastructure for electronic data collection

- Cellular signals, internet connectivity

## Language and translations

- Assume that translated text will take more space (i.e., more characters) than US English
- Certain formatting does not translate well (e.g., fonts, capitalization, and underlining)

## Benefits that do not exist on paper

- seamless skip logic, real-time edit checks, calculations, and alarms

# But wait, there's a catch

“When a PRO instrument is modified, sponsors generally should provide evidence to confirm the new instrument’s adequacy.”

- From the FDA’s PRO Guidance (FDA 2009)

Section F. Instrument Modification, pages 20-21

“Examples of changes that can alter the way that patients respond to the same set of questions include:

- Changing an instrument from paper to electronic format
- Changing the order of items, item wording, response options, or recall period or deleting portions of the questionnaire
- Changing the instructions or the placement of instructions within the PRO instrument”

# Items of Concern on Paper

Please complete either 6 or 7 (not both)

## 6. Decreased Appetite:

- 0 There is no change in my usual appetite.
- 1 I eat somewhat less often or lesser amounts of food than usual.
- 2 I eat much less than usual and only with personal effort.
- 3 I rarely eat within a 24-hour period, and only with extreme personal effort or when others persuade me to eat.

- OR -

## 7. Increased Appetite:

- 0 There is no change in my usual appetite.
- 1 I feel a need to eat more frequently than usual.
- 2 I regularly eat more often and/or greater amounts of food than usual.
- 3 I feel driven to overeat both at mealtime and between meals.

Rush, A. J., Trivedi, M. H., Ibrahim, H. M., Carmody, T. J., Arnow, B., Klein, D. N., Markowitz, J. C., Ninan, P.T., Kornstein, S., Manber, R., Thase, M. E., Kocsis, J. H., and Keller, M. B. (2003). The 16-Item Quick Inventory of Depressive Symptomatology (QIDS), Clinician Rating (QIDS-C), and Self-Report (QIDS-SR): A Psychometric Evaluation in Patients with Chronic Major Depression. Biological Psychiatry, 54:573-583.

# Types of testing for ePRO adaptation



## Conceptual equivalence

- Do the subjects understand and interpret the modified instrument the same as the original paper-based instrument?

## Statistical equivalence

- Are the scores obtained from the modified instrument the same as those from the original?

Coons SJ, Gwaltney CJ, Hays RD, et al (2009). Recommendations on evidence needed to support measurement equivalence between electronic and paper-based patient-reported outcome (PRO) measures: ISPOR ePRO Good Research Practices Task Force Report. *Value Health* 12(4):419-429.

# Equivalence Testing

Qualitatively assess conceptual equivalence

- Small scale (n=15) cognitive interviewing to ensure understanding and ePRO usability
- The paper and electronic questionnaire may be completed by the subject, and the variation in response explored with the subject
- Not aimed at assessing the content of the original measure

Poor paper measure = Poor electronic measure

# Equivalence Testing

Quantitatively assess whether the data produced among alternative modes of administration are equivalent

- Larger scale (n=60-120), repeated-measure design
  - Crossover design, comparing paper and electronic
  - Assess score agreement (e.g., mean differences, ICC)
- Only necessary when moderate levels of change have been made during the migration
- Assumes the validity of the measure remains intact

# Problems with Equivalence Testing

Authors may have varying opinions on demonstrating agreement

Paper is an imperfect “gold standard”

- Poor paper measure = Poor electronic measure
- Some items may have content validity, but perform poorly or have a lot of statistical noise



# ePRO Recommendations



- Use ePRO with the understanding that there will be circumstances where it may not be appropriate
- Keep subject burden in mind/streamline user interface
- Expectations must be set with sites & patients
- Quality documentation must complement ePRO
- Adequate training will lower resistance & anxiety for new users
- Monitor compliance actively & educate sites about associated responsibilities
- If the Sponsor team is new to ePRO, appropriate training will ensure all understand the process and associated expectations
- Apply the same rigor to ePRO that is applied to PRO

# Where are we with Patient-Driven eData?

Valdo Arnera, MD – PHT Corporation

# Patient eData Annual Adoption 2002-2013



New trial starts

**4,000 → 5,250\***

% of studies  
that Collect PRO Data

**15% → 35%\***

% of studies  
that use ePRO

**5% → 45%\***

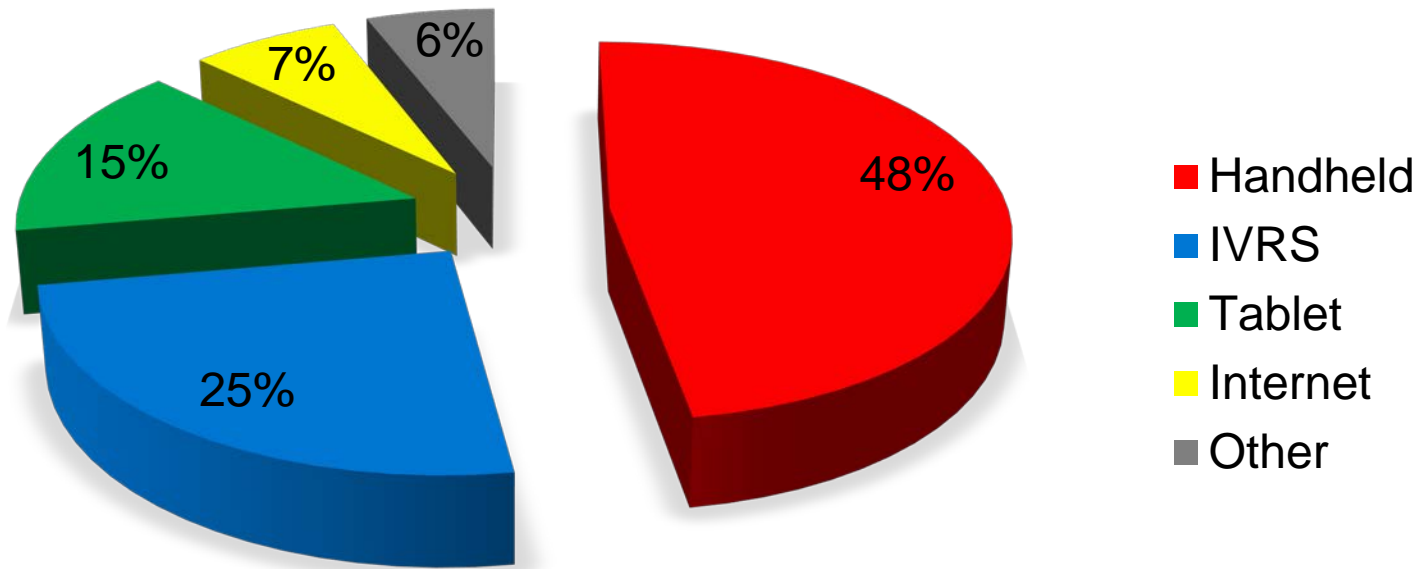
Number of ePRO Trials

**30 → ?**

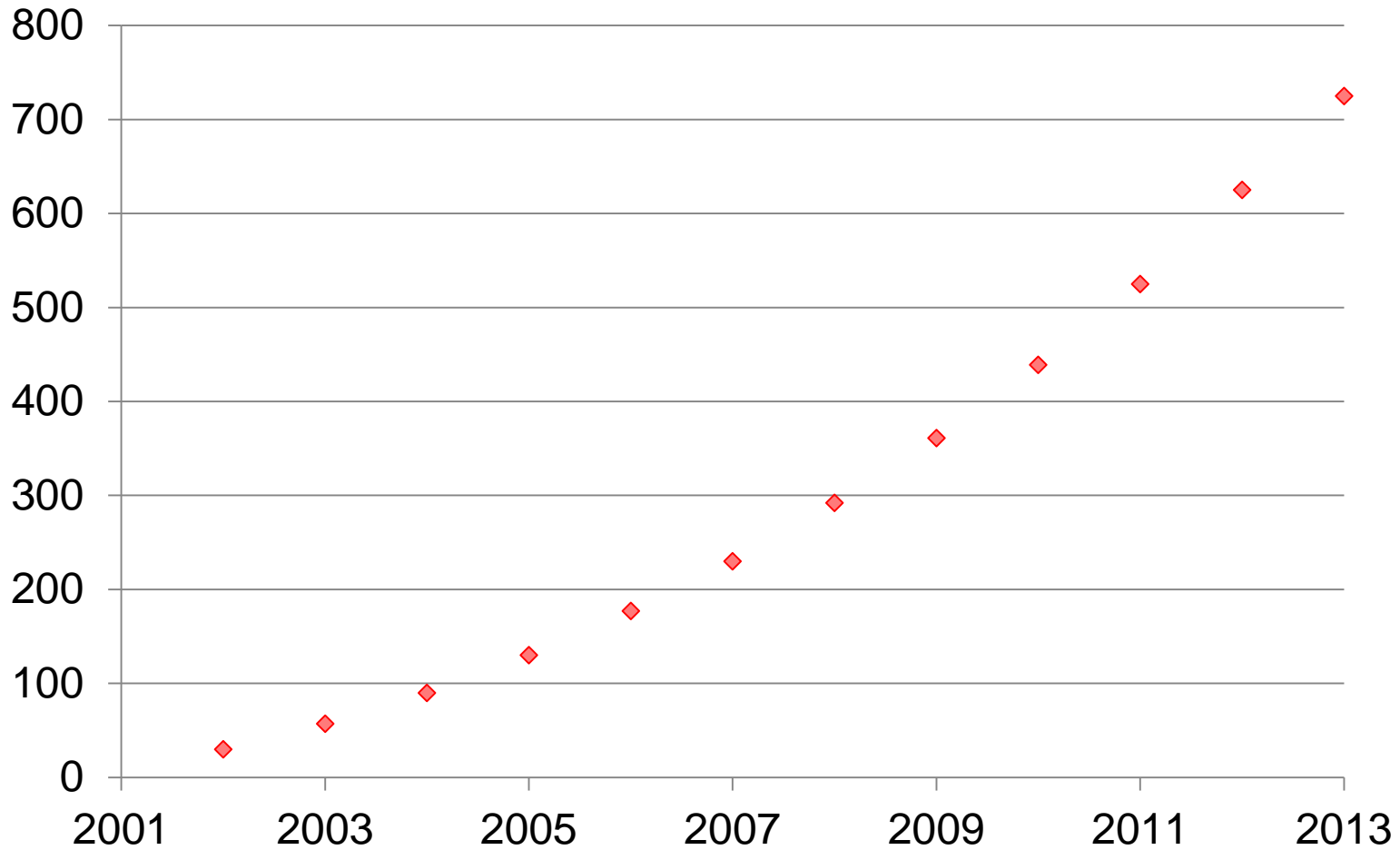
\* PHT Corporation Estimates

# Patient eData Annual Adoption Rate - 2011

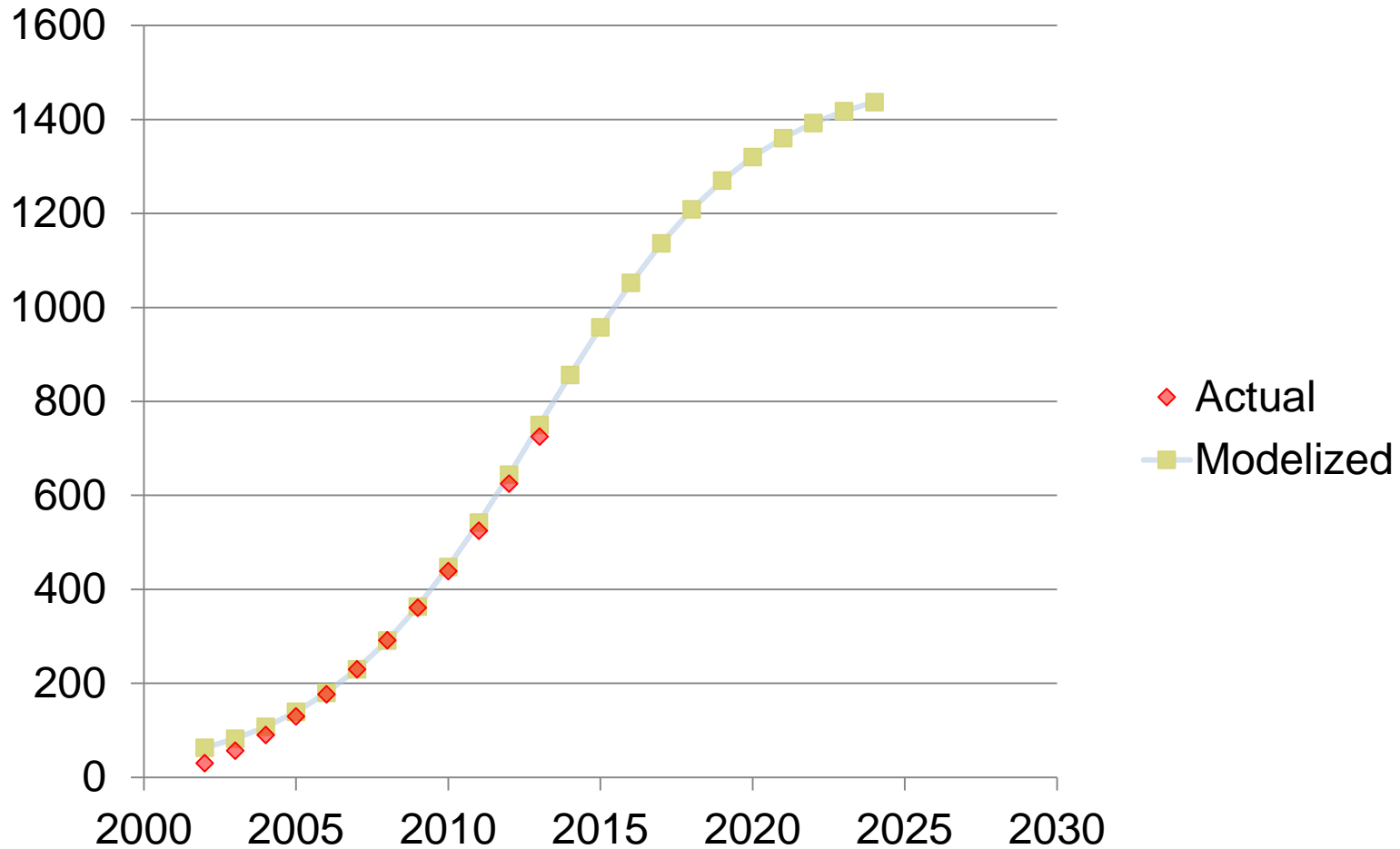
## ePRO Platforms



# Number of Patient eData Trials 2002-2013



# Number of Patient eData Trials 2002-2025 ?



$$Y = \left( \frac{1}{1 + \text{EXP}(-1 * 0.284782 * (X - 2013))} \right) * 1500$$

# Increased Quality / Mode of Collection

- Insomnia
- Chronic Constipation
- Urinary Incontinence
- Asthma

The increased quality is very similar across TAs

# Merck Insomnia Study

- One of the first randomized studies comparing eDiaries and paper on their relative capacity to show efficacy
- Two arms underwent an approved treatment for Insomnia
- Study performed by Merck Research Laboratories

eDiary

FRT 16 Nov 03

How many hours did you sleep last night?

HR : MIN

06 : 15

← →

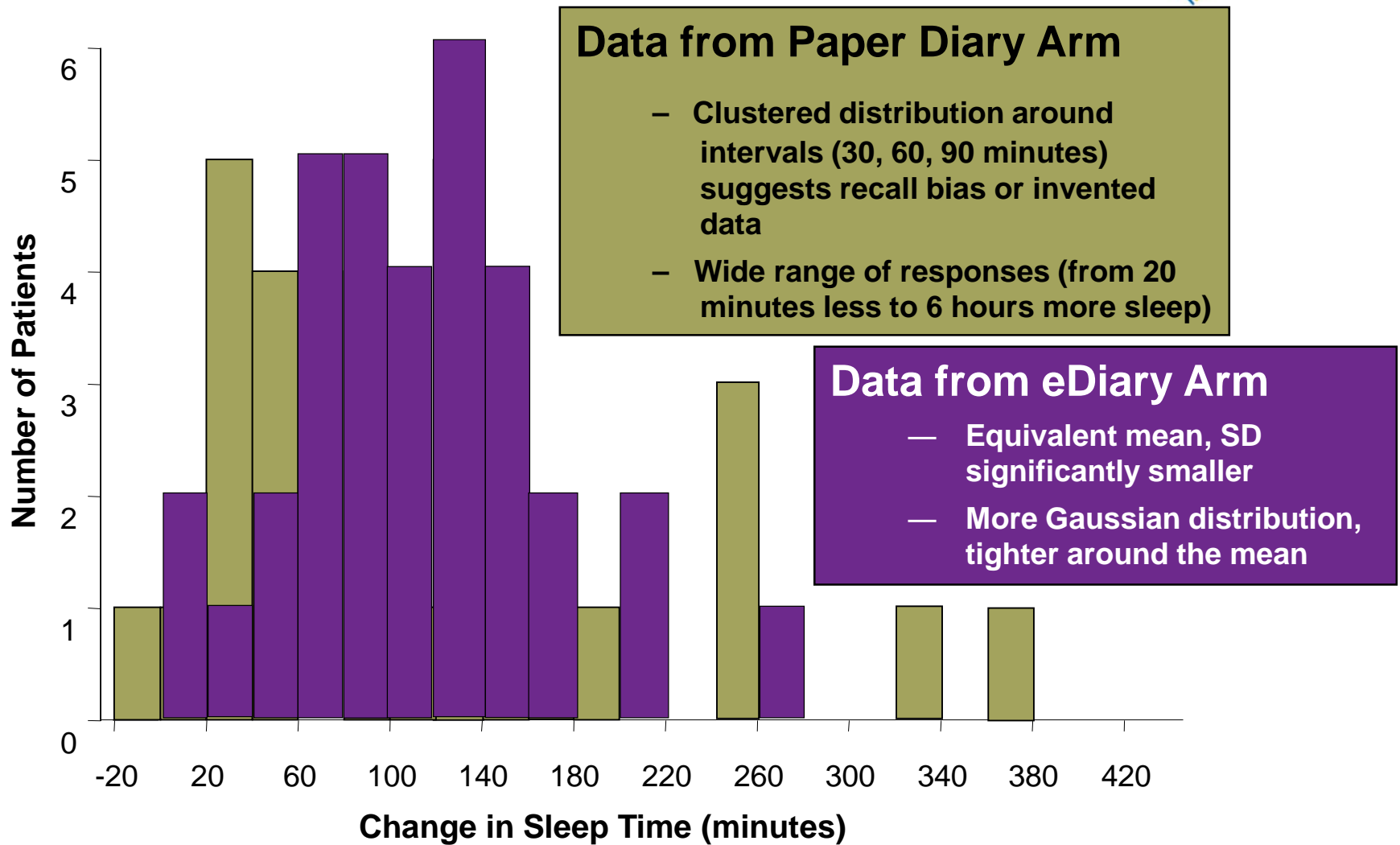
Paper Diary Version

*Answer questions 4-7 by entering a NUMBER (zero or greater) in each box.*

7. How many hours did you sleep last night? \_\_\_\_\_ hours \_\_\_\_\_ minutes



# Paper and eDiary Data: $\Delta$ Sleep Time



# Summary of Results

Area of Interest in Trial	PHT LogPad	Paper Diaries
<b>Calculated patients to yield 90% study power</b>	<b>N=44</b>	<b>N=101 (56% more than LogPad)</b>
<b>Potential cost savings</b>	<b>\$340,000 *</b>	--
<b>Distribution of responses</b>	<b>More Gaussian</b>	<b>Suggests recall bias</b>
<b>Standard deviation</b>	<b>35% smaller</b>	--
<b>Sleep Change estimates</b>	<b>Nearly identical</b>	--
<b>Coefficient of variance</b>	<b>Significantly smaller</b>	--
<b>Data Point Changes and Notification Forms</b>	--	<b>3x more of each</b>
<b>Compliance (% of diaries completed)</b>	<b>92% objective subject compliance</b>	<b>96% purported subject compliance</b>
Cost: <b>Data Entry (hr)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>58</b>
<b>Data Review (hr)</b>	<b>10.5</b>	<b>10.5</b>

\* Estimated by assuming a total per-patient cost of \$6,000

Results presented at DIA 2004 and at the International Society for Quality of Life Research (ISOQOL) 2004 symposium

# Tegaserod in Chronic Constipation

Poster presented at  
WCOG 2005

**Tegaserod relieves multiple chronic constipation symptoms in men**  
 Fried M,<sup>1</sup> Johanson JF,<sup>2</sup> Gwee KA,<sup>3</sup> McDowell B,<sup>4</sup> Pecher E,<sup>5</sup> Shtetline M<sup>6</sup>  
<sup>1</sup>University Hospital Zurich, Gastroenterology and Hepatology, Zurich, Switzerland; <sup>2</sup>Profilord Gastroenterology Associates, Gastroenterology, Roseland, USA; <sup>3</sup>Singapore Hospital, Gastroenterology, Singapore, Singapore; <sup>4</sup>Novartis Pharma AG, Basel, Switzerland; <sup>5</sup>Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation, East Hanover, USA

**BACKGROUND**  
 Chronic constipation is a common symptom that affects approximately 10% of the population. It is characterized by infrequent bowel movements, hard stools, and a sense of incomplete evacuation. The pathogenesis of chronic constipation is multifactorial, involving both anatomical and functional factors. Tegaserod, a 5-HT<sub>4</sub> receptor partial agonist, is thought to improve gastrointestinal motility and relieve constipation symptoms.

**OBJECTIVE**  
 To evaluate the efficacy and safety of tegaserod in the treatment of chronic constipation in men.

**METHODS**  
**Study design**  
 A randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial comparing tegaserod 6 mg bid to placebo for 12 weeks in men with chronic constipation.


**Patient recruitment**  
 Men with chronic constipation were recruited from gastroenterology clinics and community advertisements. Inclusion criteria included a history of chronic constipation for at least 6 months, a mean stool frequency of less than 3 per week, and a mean stool consistency score of less than 2.5.

**Efficacy endpoints**  
 The primary endpoint was the change in the mean number of bowel movements per week from baseline to week 12. Secondary endpoints included changes in stool consistency, abdominal pain, and bloating.

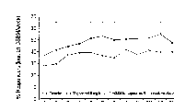
**Safety assessments**  
 Adverse events were monitored throughout the study. Common side effects included headache, dizziness, and dry mouth.

**Statistical analysis**  
 The primary endpoint was analyzed using an intention-to-treat approach. A two-sided p-value of less than 0.05 was considered statistically significant.

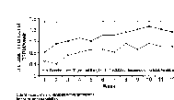
**RESULTS**  
**Patient recruitment and baseline demographics**  
 A total of 1026 patients were recruited and randomized to either the tegaserod group (n=513) or the placebo group (n=513). The baseline characteristics of the two groups were similar.



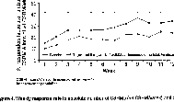
**Change in bowel frequency**  
 The mean number of bowel movements per week increased significantly in the tegaserod group compared to the placebo group over the 12-week study period.



**Effect on stool consistency and straining**  
 Tegaserod treatment resulted in a significant improvement in stool consistency and a reduction in straining during bowel movements.



**Change in abdominal pain and bloating**  
 There was a significant reduction in abdominal pain and bloating in the tegaserod group compared to the placebo group.



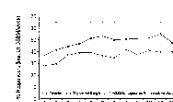
**Safety**  
 The safety profile of tegaserod was similar to placebo, with no significant differences in adverse events between the two groups.

**CONCLUSIONS**  
 Tegaserod is an effective and safe treatment for chronic constipation in men, improving bowel frequency, stool consistency, and abdominal symptoms.

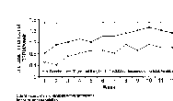
**REFERENCES**  
 1. Johanson JF, et al. (2003) Tegaserod relieves multiple chronic constipation symptoms in men. *Alimentary Pharmacology and Therapeutics*, 17, 1155-1165.  
 2. ...  
 3. ...

**RESULTS (cont'd)**  
 The mean number of bowel movements per week increased significantly in the tegaserod group compared to the placebo group over the 12-week study period. The mean stool consistency score improved significantly in the tegaserod group compared to the placebo group. There was a significant reduction in abdominal pain and bloating in the tegaserod group compared to the placebo group.

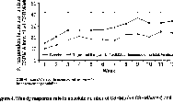
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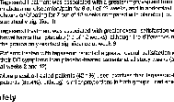
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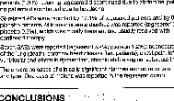
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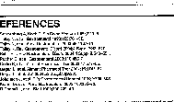
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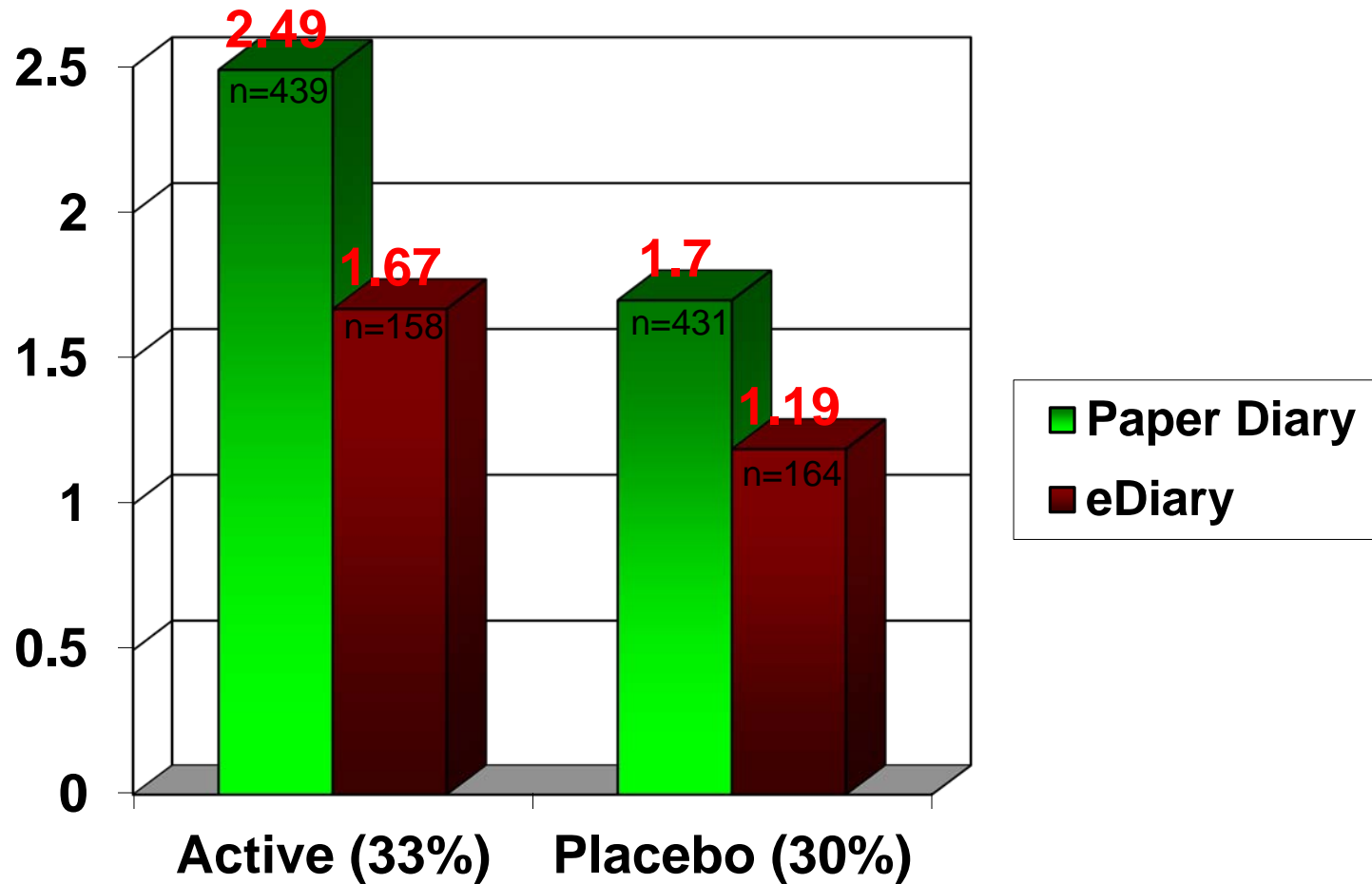
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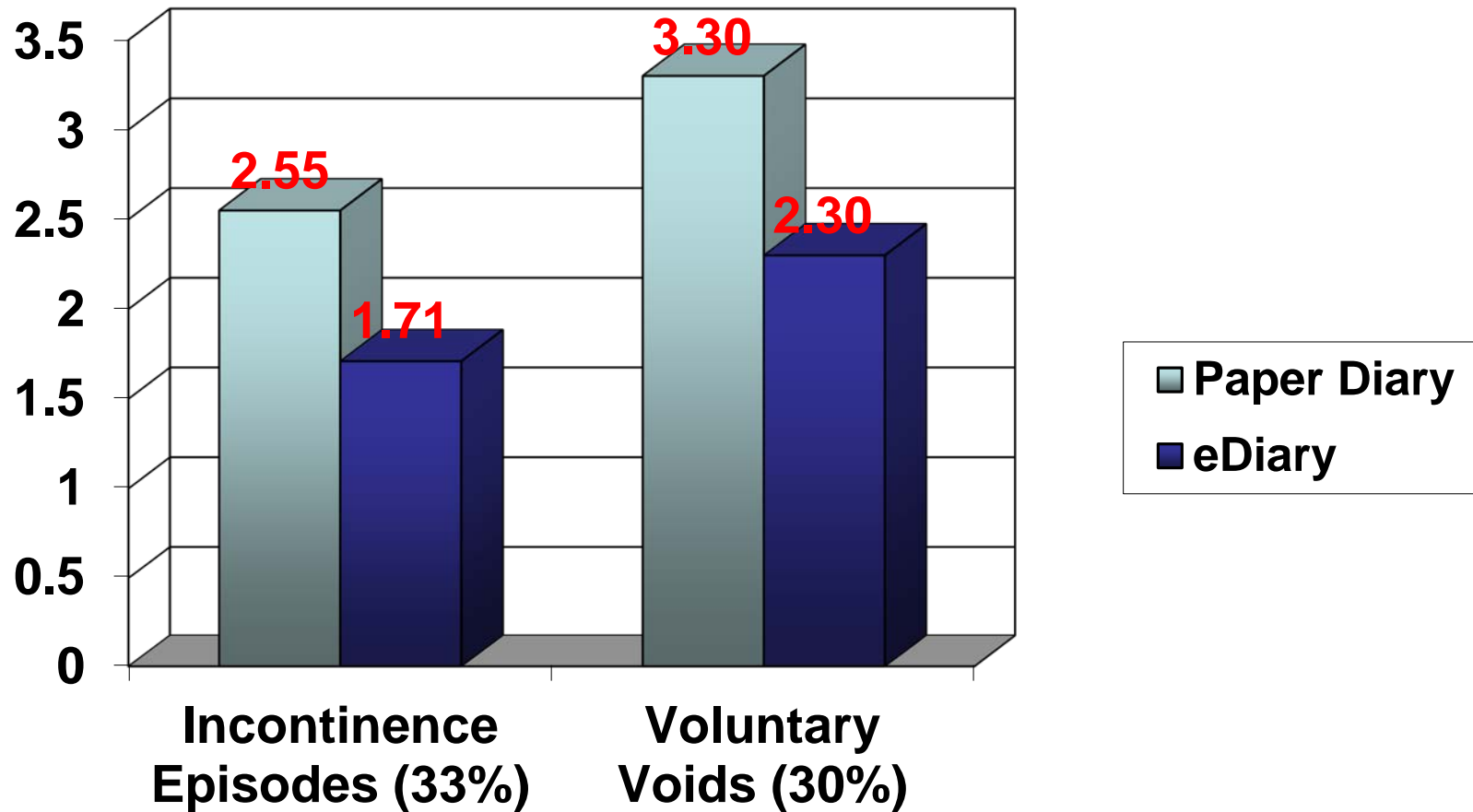
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 2. ...  
 3. ...

Protocol had planned 1026 patients  
 Study was interrupted  
 Drug Efficacy was shown with 322 randomized patients

# Differences in Std Deviation: Primary Efficacy Endpoint (CSBM)



# Differences in Std Deviation: Primary Efficacy Endpoint (Micturitions)



# Increased Quality / Privacy



A 4 weeks randomized cross-over trial to compare 2 methods of data collection (electronic and paper) in subjects with FSD Female Sexual Encounter Profile (adapted)© Ferguson 2002

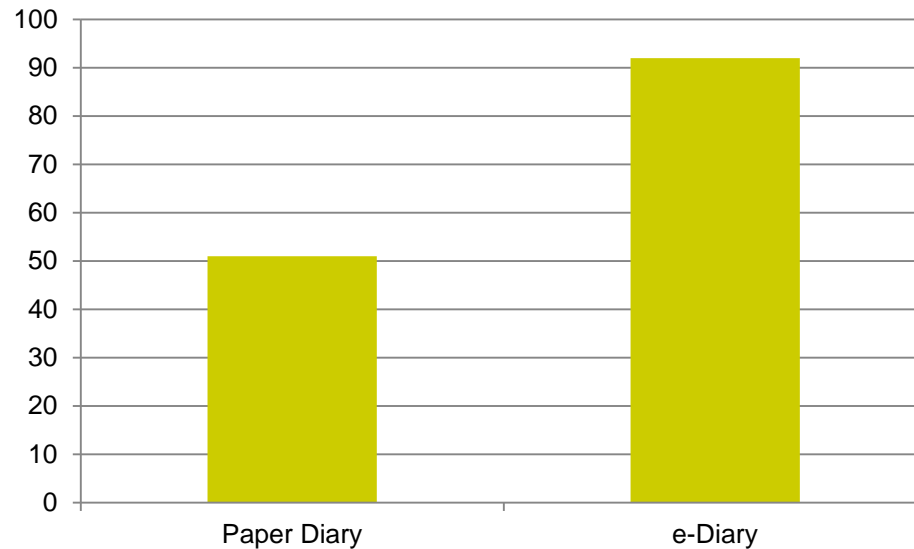
## Inclusion Criteria

- Females with symptoms of sexual dysfunction
- In a stable, hetero-sexual relationship
- Minimum age of 18 yrs

## Study included 27 Patients

One doesn't speak to paper the same way than to a PDA

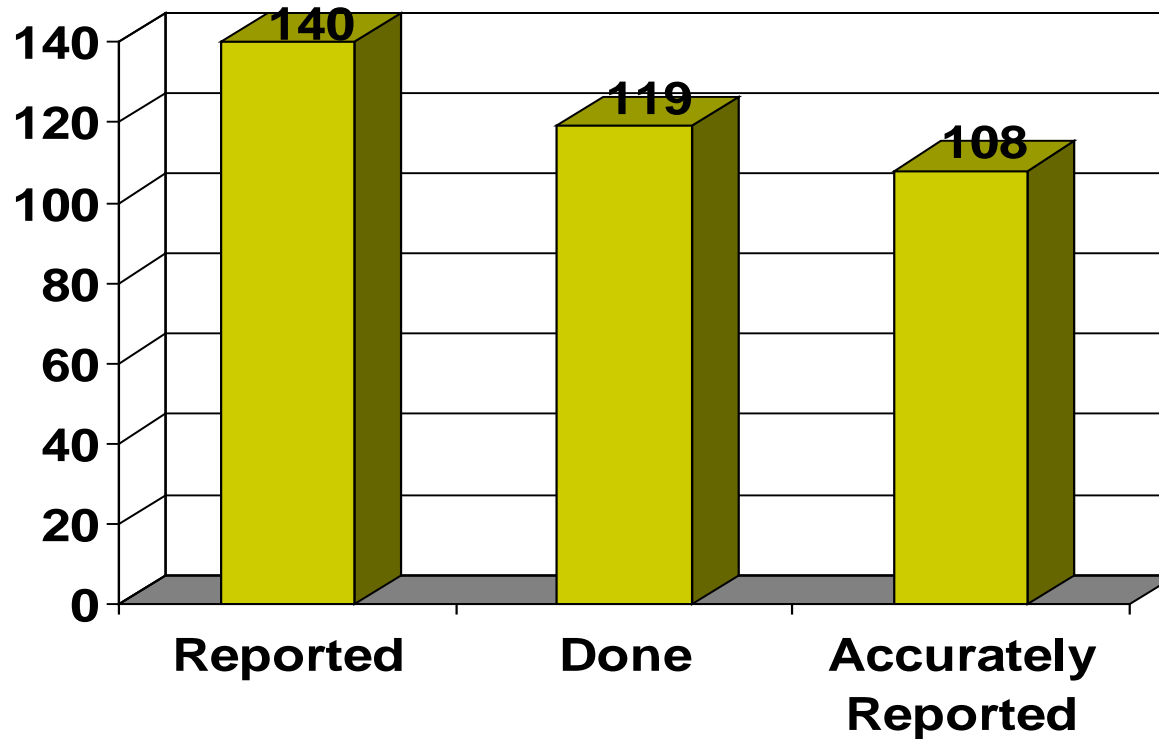
# Increased Quality / Privacy



**Female Sexual Encounter Profile Completion**

# Increased Quality / Cheating Prevention

Use of an electronic Peak Flow meter to assess compliance vs. paper diaries filled in by the patient.

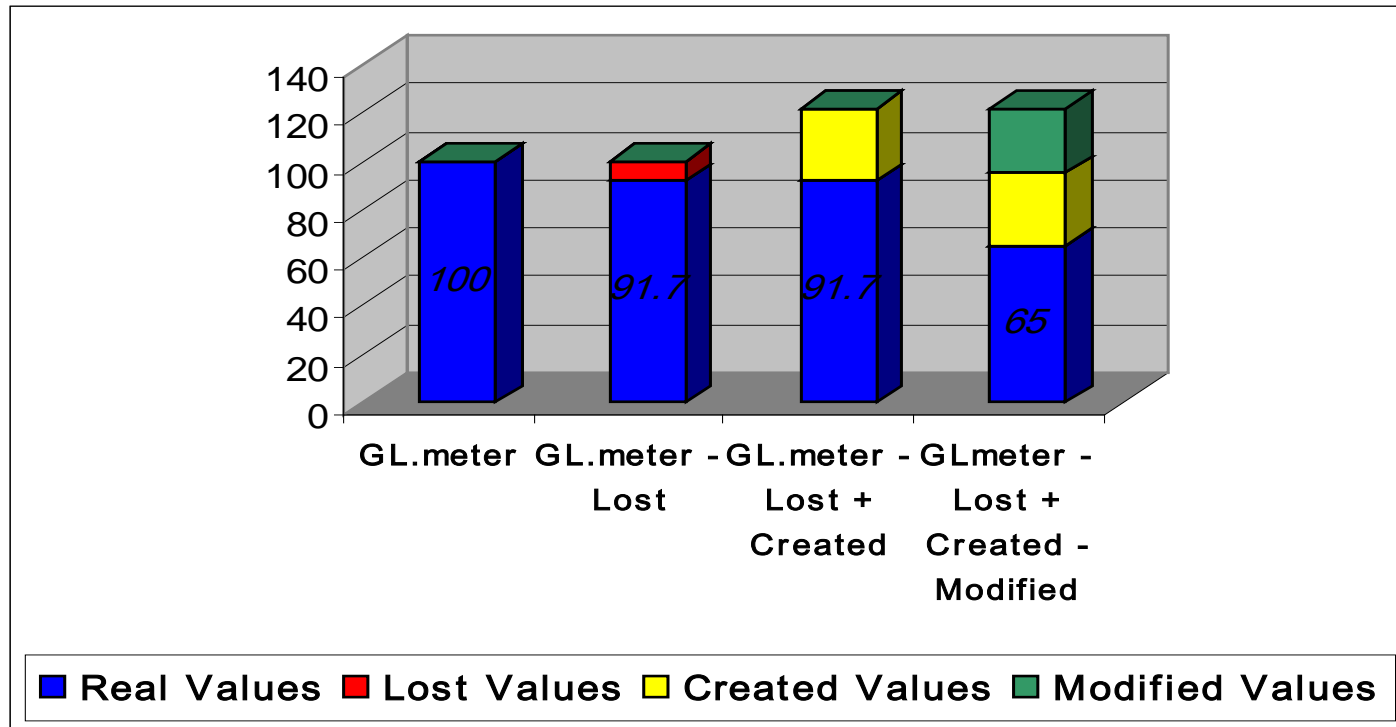


Objective measurements of compliance in asthma treatment.  
F. Chmelik et al, Annals of Allergy, Dec 1994



# Increased Quality / Cheating Prevention

## Blood Glucose Values recorded in the Glucometer and on the Paper diary



Reliability of Blood Glucose Monitoring by Patients with Diabetes Mellitus R.S. Mazze et al, The American Journal of Medicine, Aug 1984

# Differences in SD: Efficacy Endpoint = PEF



New trial including 2300 patients, 6 months treatment

Approximately 90% paper diaries / 10% eDiaries

Aim: to investigate if the results differed between paper and eDiaries

<b>Residual Standard deviation</b>	<b>Morning PEF (L/min)</b>
pDiary	44.1
eDiary	38.3

Use of an eDiary can decrease the variability in mPEF

Tendency of lower standard deviations in majority of eDiary endpoints

Indicate increase in the quality of the data

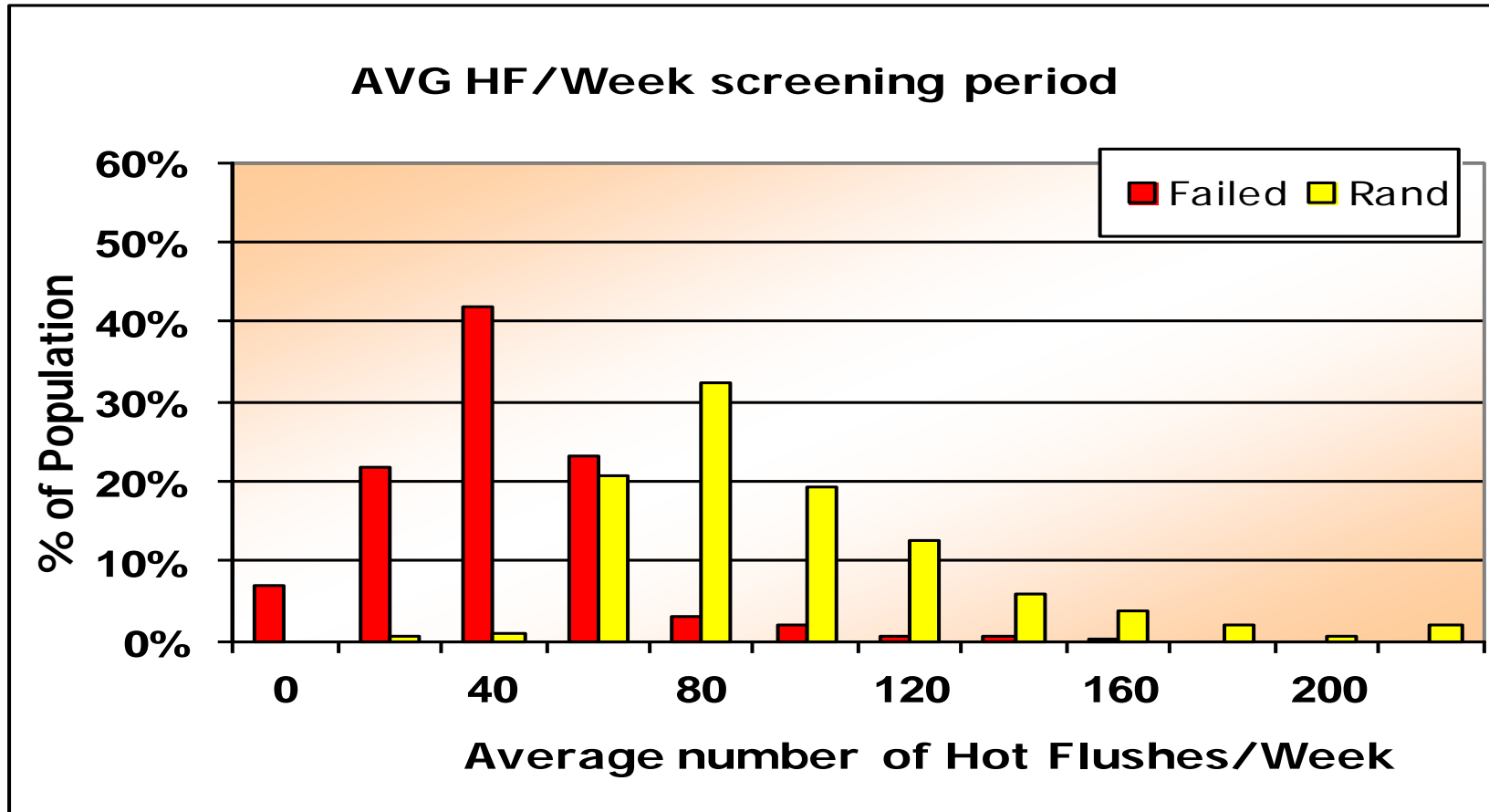
Increased precision → fewer patients needed

# Integration of Objective Measurement Devices & ePRO



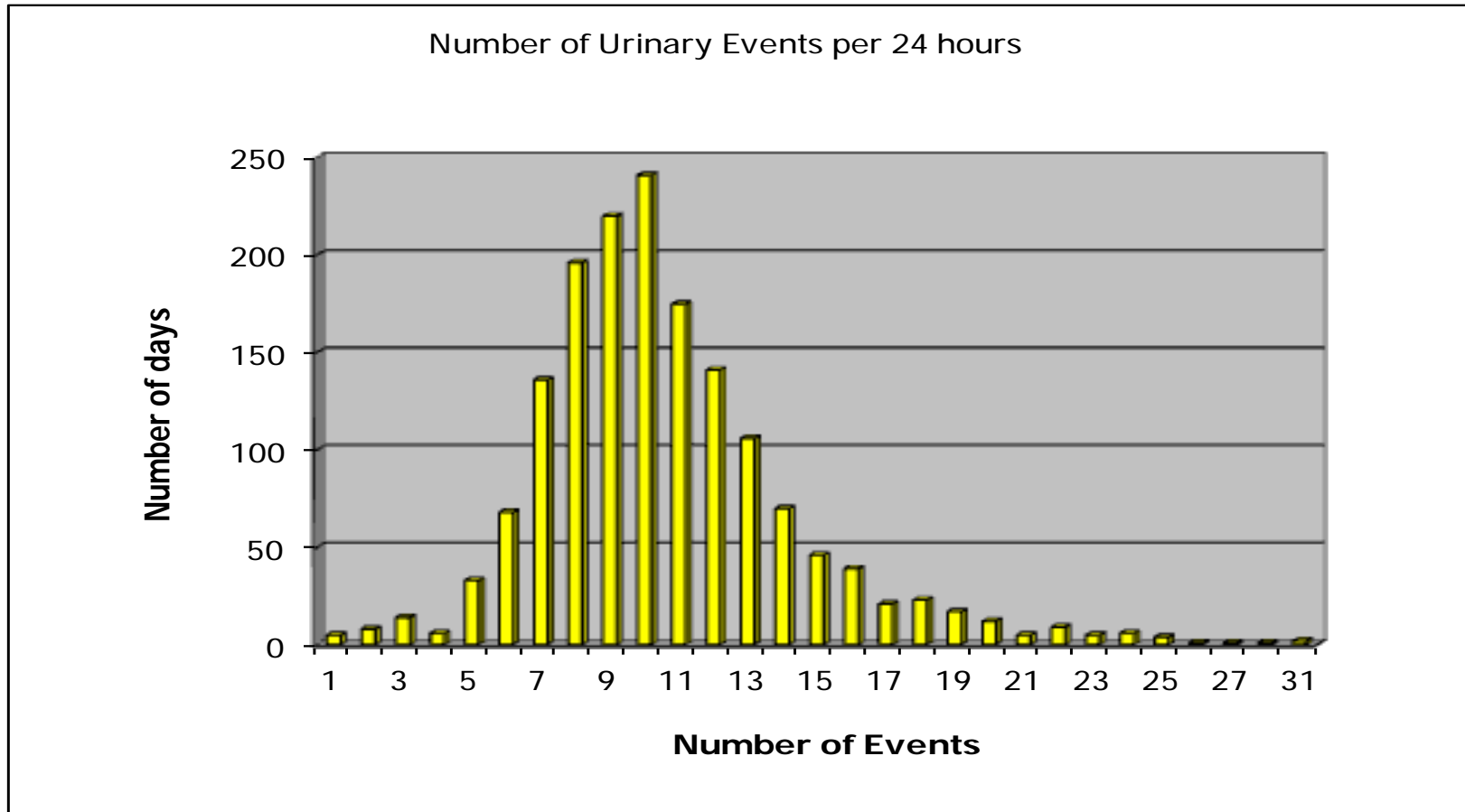
Combines objective and subjective data enriches voice of patient

# Increased Quality / Ease of Collection



Flushes at the menopause

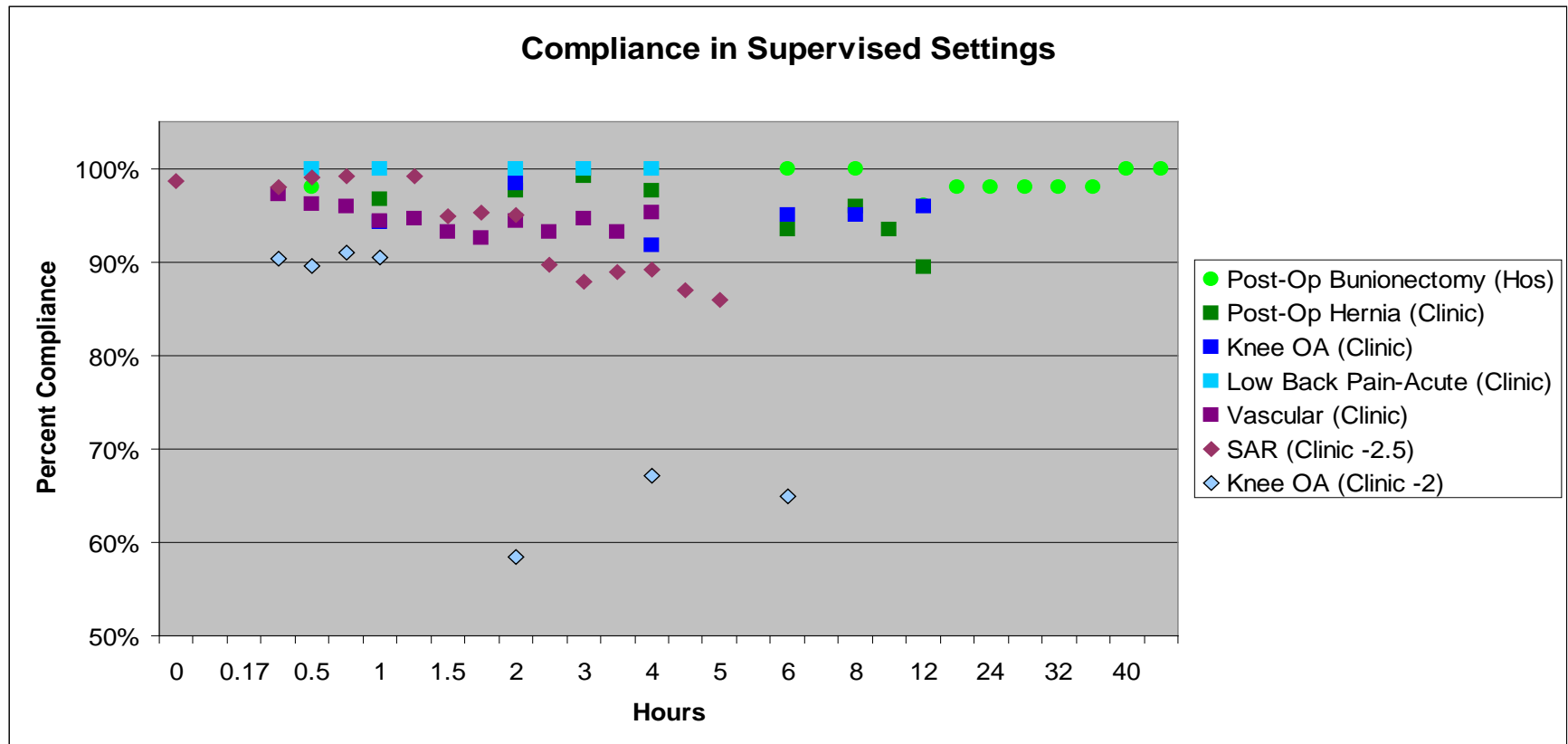
# Increased Quality / Ease of Collection



Urinary Incontinence

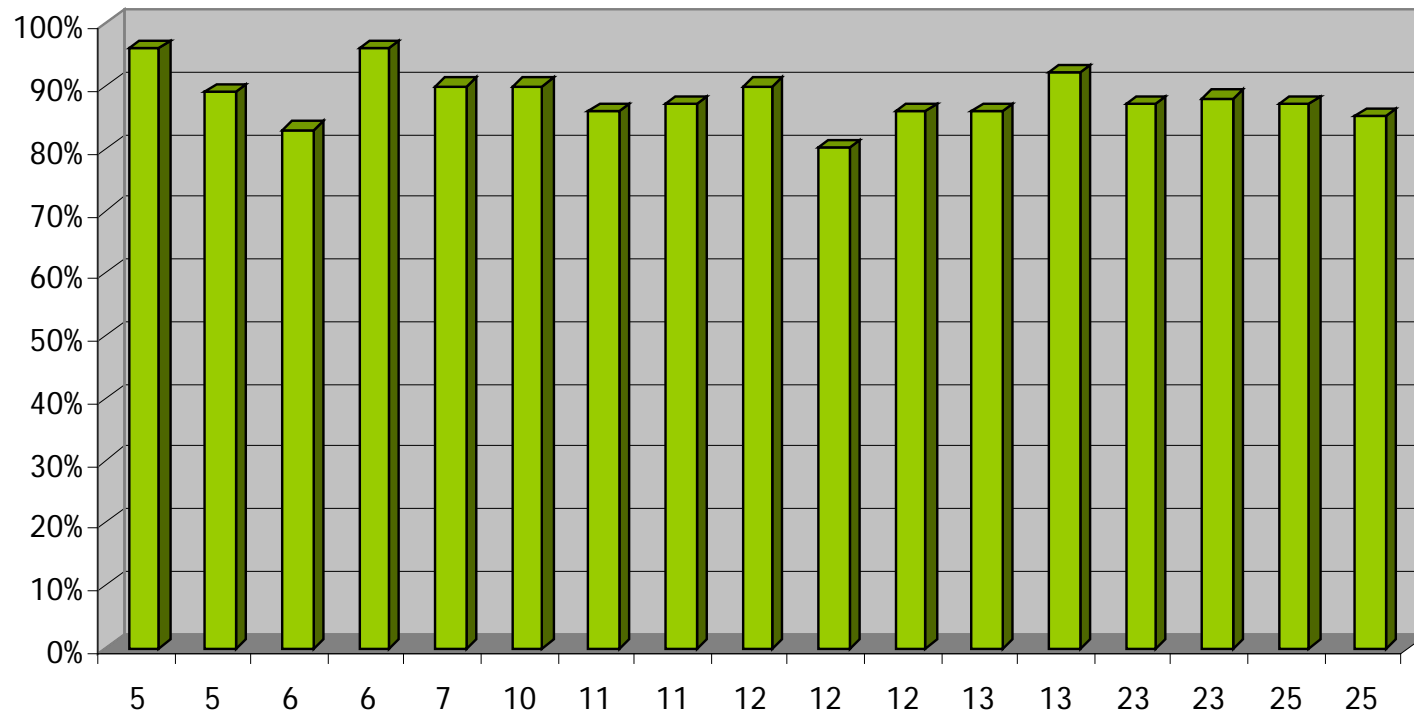
# Increased Quality / Ease of Collection

## Timed assessments in various pain models

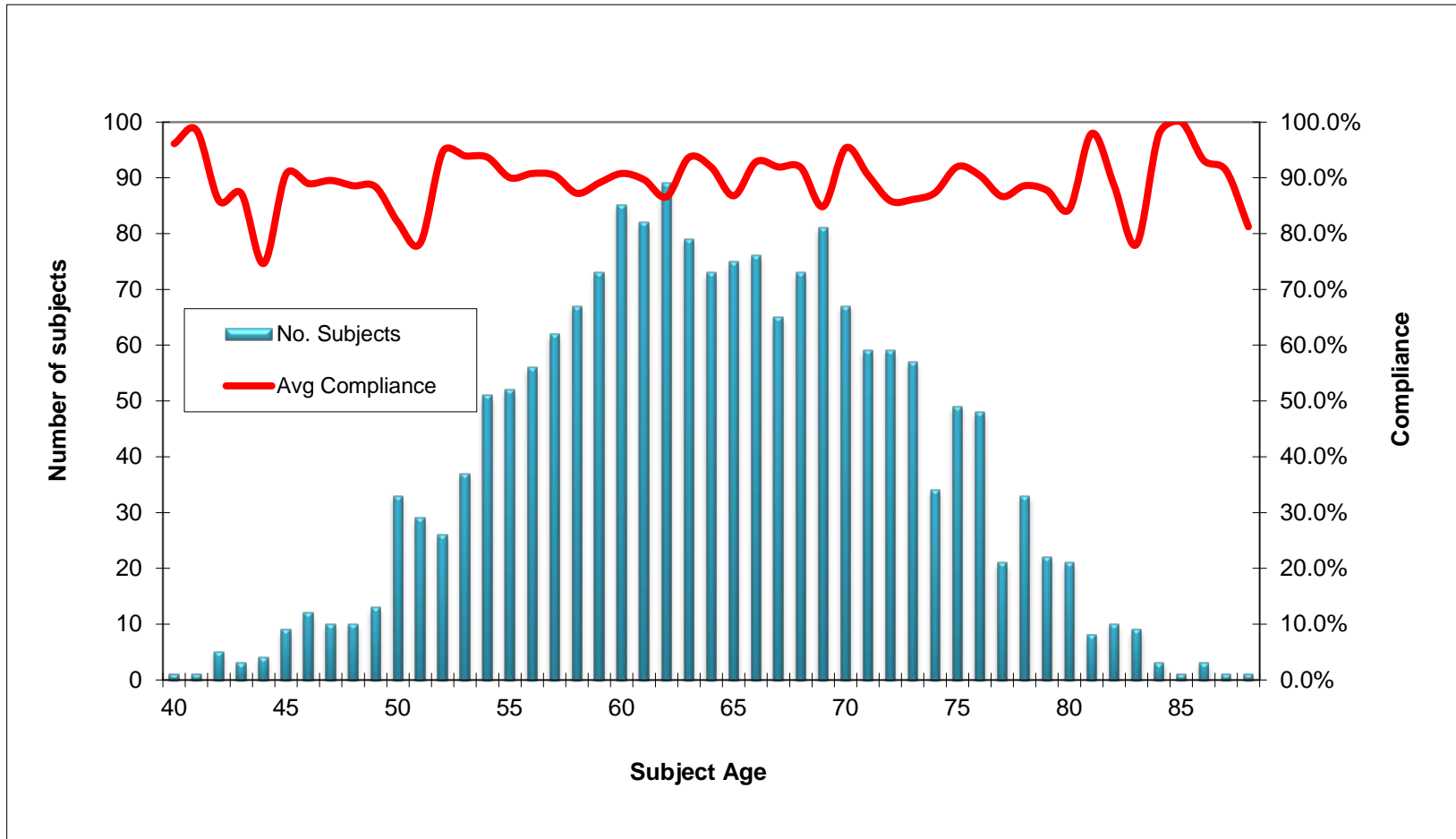


# Increased Quality / Ease of Collection

Number of questions per diary



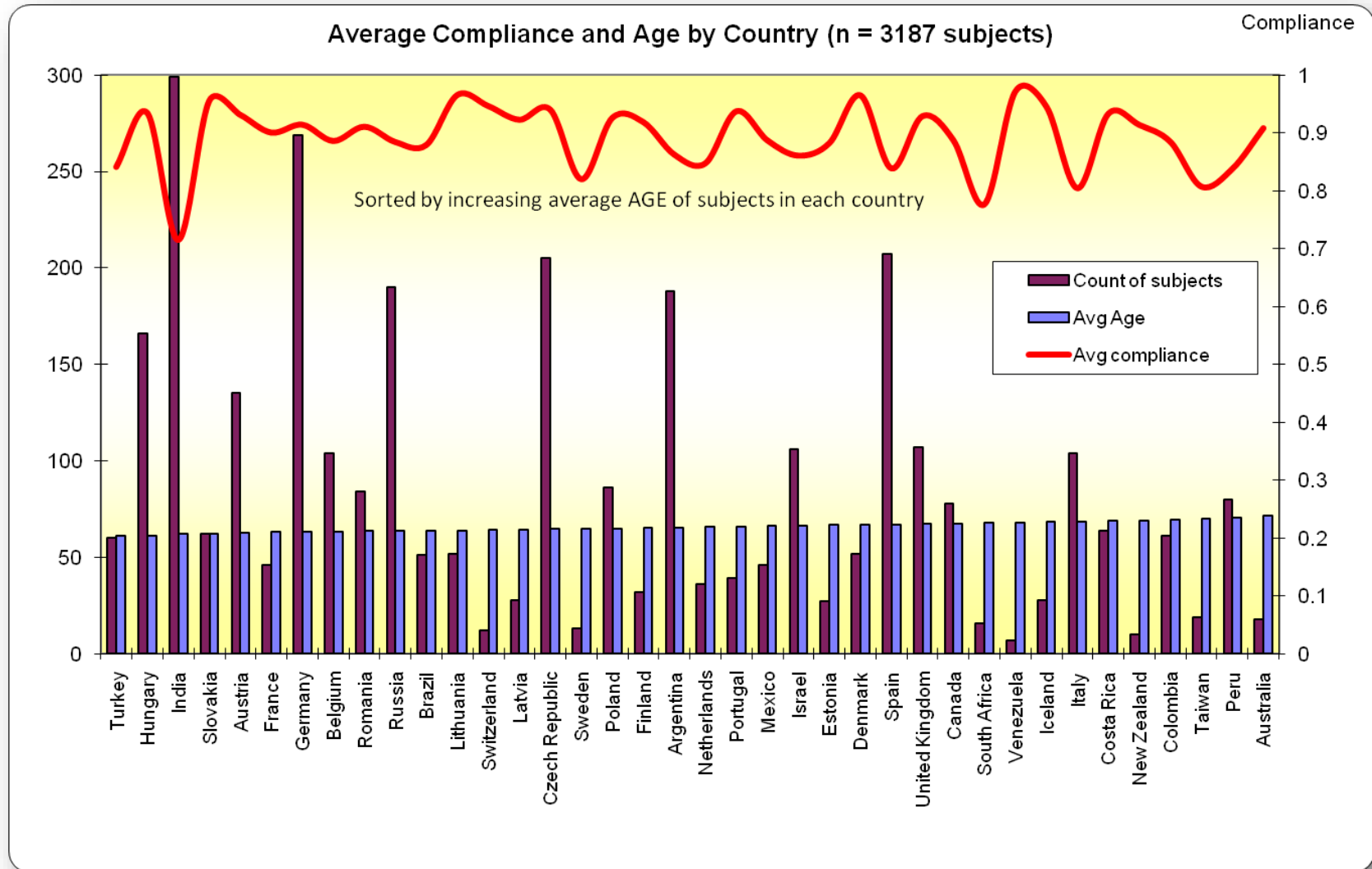
# Ease of collection has no age



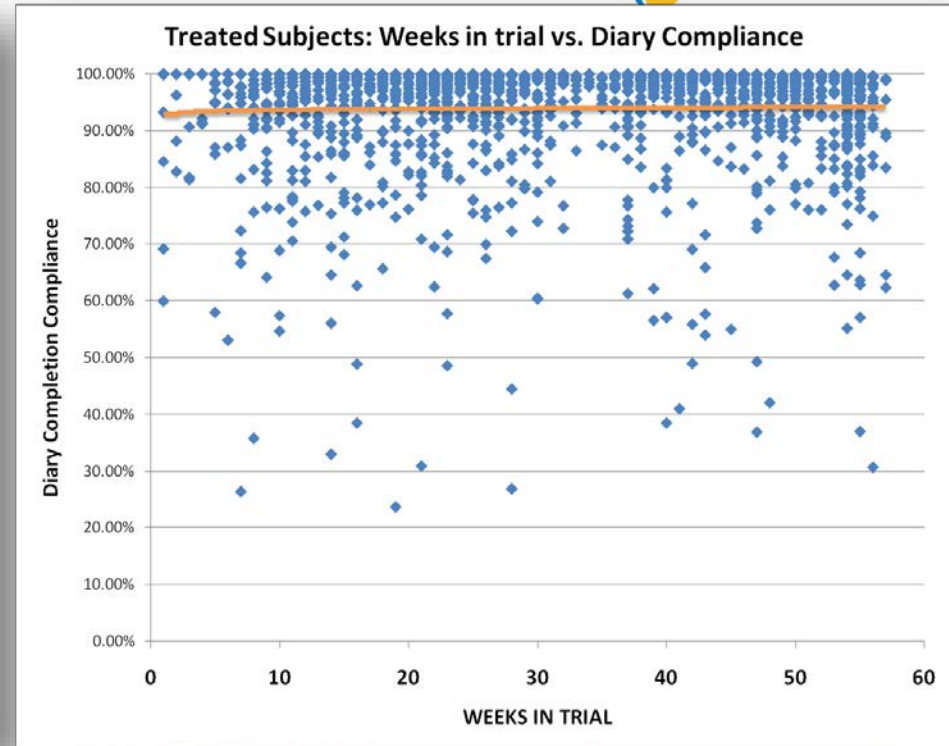
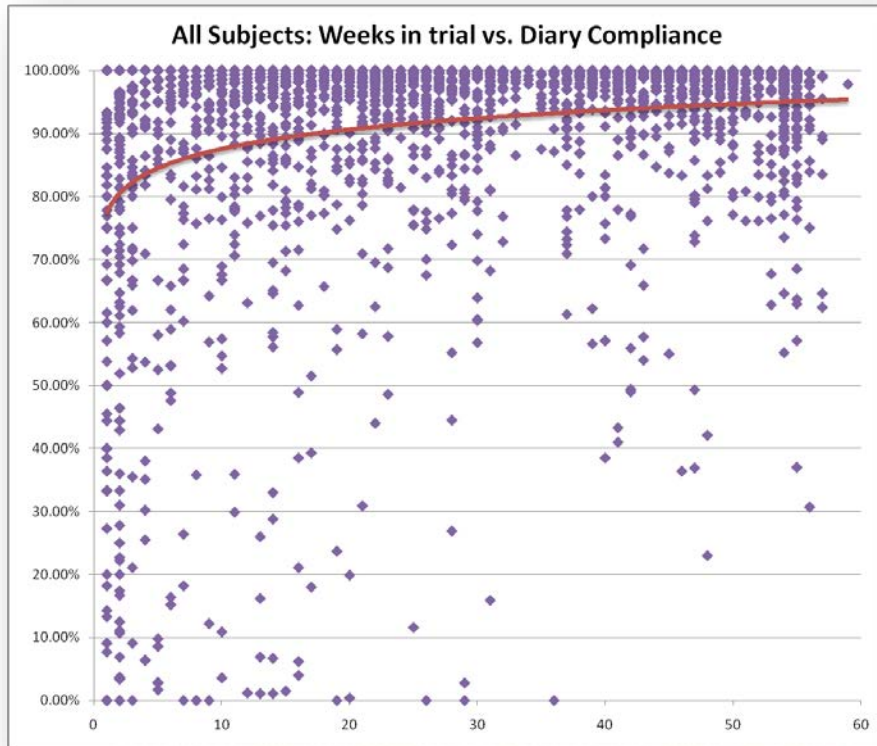
**Age has little / no affect on average compliance of diary completions**



# Ease of collection has no borders



# Ease of collection does not seem to stop



**CONCLUSIONS:** This analysis of the study meta-data is further proof that subjects can, and are willing, to complete daily diaries electronically. This is regardless of their age or country of origin. Additionally, the duration of participation in the trial is not a burden that has significantly impacted their ability to complete their diaries.

# Shortened Recruitment / Decreased Drop-out



Study based on events rather than patients (COPD exacerbations, Migraine attacks, Bleedings in Hemophilia, Restless Legs Syndrome,...)

- need for 500 events
- based on events' occurrence in previous studies (paper diaries)
- planned recruitment of 14 months

## Study Results

- 2 to 3 times more events than expected
- only 1 withdrawal of consent when much more was anticipated
- study ended 8 months earlier (recruitment of 6 months instead of 14)

Patients were asked why: The answer was that they behaved differently because of ease of use

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## **Guidance for Industry Irritable Bowel Syndrome — Clinical Evaluation of Drugs for Treatment**

**U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
Food and Drug Administration  
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research (CDER)**

**May 2012  
Clinical/Medical**

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# New FDA Draft Guidance (2)

## 4. *Efficacy Measures*

Sponsors should choose a format for daily sign or symptom assessment (e.g., interactive voice response or personal digital assistant) so that patients can evaluate their IBS signs or symptoms on a daily basis throughout the trial. When assessing responses, sponsors should consider two distinct approaches: (1) examining the difference in average score (or average change from baseline score) between the treated and untreated groups; or (2) examining the difference in response rate in the treated and untreated groups, where the response is prospectively defined and represents an effect considered clinically meaningful. In many instances, an effective drug will have an effect on both measures.

# Q&A