

## Online Supplement

### Validity of an automated telephonic system

#### to assess COPD exacerbation rates in prospective clinical studies

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**Contents of TEXAS call** (translated to English, original questions were in Dutch)\*

#### Introduction:

This call is only meant for Mr./Mrs. <i>..name..</i> . Are you Mr./Mrs. <i>..name..</i> ?	press <b>1</b>
Could you please hand over the phone to Mr./Mrs. <i>..name..</i> ?	press <b>2</b>
Do you want us to call you back on a different day or time?	press <b>3</b>

#### The following questions concern your respiratory symptoms:

During the last two weeks, did you experience any events of two or more days on which ...		
1.	... you were <b>shorter of breath</b> than usual?	<b>1=YES / 2=NO</b>
2.	... you had <b>more sputum</b> than usual?	<b>1=YES / 2=NO</b>
3.	... your <b>sputum</b> was <b>different in color or composition</b> than usual?	<b>1=YES / 2=NO</b>
4.	... you experienced <b>more wheezing</b> or your <b>chest felt tighter</b> ?	<b>1=YES / 2=NO</b>
5.	... you had a <b>sore throat</b> ?	<b>1=YES / 2=NO</b>
6.	... you had to <b>cough more</b> than usual?	<b>1=YES / 2=NO</b>
7.	... you had a <b>cold or a runny nose</b> ?	<b>1=YES / 2=NO</b>
8.	... you used <b>more puffs</b> of your bronchodilator than usual?	<b>1=YES / 2=NO</b>

9.	During the last two weeks, did you initiate a course of <b>prednisolone or antibiotics</b> because of a worsening of your respiratory symptoms?	<b>1=YES / 2=NO</b>
10.	Did you experience days on which you were not able to perform your usual daily activities?	<b>1=YES / 2=NO</b>
10.b	On how many days did you experience this?	PRESS THE NUMBER OF DAYS AND END WITH #
11.	During the last two weeks did you need any unscheduled medical attention because of a worsening of your respiratory symptoms?	<b>1=YES / 2=NO</b>
11.b	If so, did you visit your general practitioner (GP)?	press <b>1</b>
	Or did you visit an Emergency Department?	press <b>2</b>
	Or did you visit the GP after-hour service?	press <b>3</b>
	Or did you visit more than one of the above mentioned care providers?	press <b>4</b>
12.	Do you have any additional information or do you want to leave a message for the researchers? Please note: with this call you cannot ask any question to your doctor	<b>1=YES** / 2=NO</b>

**Thank you for answering this call. We will call you back in 14 days.**

\* Patients received a laminated summary card with the precise questions and response categories for the TEXAS calls

\*\* After pressing '1', patients were able to leave a short spoken message.

## Contents of paper diary card

### Week 1 – 4

Please fill in this diary card every week on the same day and time. In the week that you are being called by TEXAS, please answer the telephone questions first before you fill in the diary card. Please circle the appropriate answer.

	Week 1		Week 2		Week 3		Week 4	
<b>1. Date:</b>								
During the last seven days ...								
3. ... did you initiate a course of <b>prednisolone</b> because of a worsening of your COPD?	yes	no	yes	no	yes	no	yes	no
4. ... did you initiate a course of <b>antibiotics</b> because of a worsening of your COPD?	yes	no	yes	no	yes	no	yes	no
5. ... did you use <b>more puffs</b> of your bronchodilator than usual ?	yes	no	yes	no	yes	no	yes	no
6. ... did you visit your <b>general practitioner (GP)</b> because of a worsening of your COPD?	yes	no	yes	no	yes	no	yes	no
7. ... did you visit the <b>GP after-hour service</b> because of a worsening of your COPD?	yes	no	yes	no	yes	no	yes	no
8. ... did you visit your <b>lung physician</b> because of a worsening of your COPD?	yes	no	yes	no	yes	no	yes	no

9. ... did you visit the <b>Emergency Department</b> because of a worsening of your COPD?	yes	no	yes	no	yes	no	yes	no
During the last seven days, did you experience any events of two or more days on which ...								
10. ... you had to <b>cough more</b> than usual?	yes	no	yes	no	yes	no	yes	no
11. ... you had a <b>cold or a runny nose</b> ?	yes	no	yes	no	yes	no	yes	no
12. ... your <b>sputum</b> was <b>different in color or composition</b> than usual?	yes	no	yes	no	yes	no	yes	no
13. ... you had <b>more sputum</b> than usual?	yes	no	yes	no	yes	no	yes	no
14. ... you had a <b>sore throat</b> ?	yes	no	yes	no	yes	no	yes	no
15. ... you experienced <b>more wheezing</b> or your <b>chest felt tighter</b> ?	yes	no	yes	no	yes	no	yes	no
16. ... you were <b>shorter of breath</b> than usual?	yes	no	yes	no	yes	no	yes	no

**TEXAS Evaluation Form** (translated to English, original questions were in Dutch)

1. Did you find TEXAS easy to use?

- No
- Neutral
- Yes

2. Did you experience any problems with the call system?  
(For example, did you experience not being called on the day or time of your preference, that the connection was ended, or that you could not hear the telephone voice?)

- No
- Only once
- More than once
- Often
- Very often

3. How do you like being called by TEXAS once every two weeks?

-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3
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I don't like it at all I like it very much

4. How do you like filling in a diary card once a week?

-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3
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I don't like it at all I like it very much

5. Which method of data collection do you prefer?

- TEXAS
- The diary cards
- No preference