

INTRODUCTION

Fatigue is one of the most common symptoms of **multiple sclerosis (MS)**¹.

Using MS-specific patient reported outcomes to characterize it would grant a better understanding of its impact on patients' quality of life (QoL).

OBJECTIVE

This observational longitudinal study aimed to measure fatigue in Relapsing MS (RMS) patients from multiple countries using the **Fatigue Symptoms and its Impacts Questionnaire-RMS (FSIQ-RMS)**².

METHOD

- Adult patients from the **United States (US)** (n=300), **Europe (EU)** (n=362) and **Latin America (LATAM)** (n=60) recruited via an online patient community of patients with MS (**Carenity platform**³).
- Self-reported data were collected through an online survey.
- The 20-item FSIQ-RMS assesses MS-related fatigue, measuring its severity based on the average daily ratings over a 7-day period, and evaluates its impact on three subdomains: physical, cognitive/emotional, and coping.
- On the seventh day, participants were asked to assess their fatigue over the previous 7 days. **FSIQ-RMS** and the **7-day lookback** scores were compared using Pearson's correlation coefficient (r) for all regions at baseline, and for the US after 6, 12 and 18 months.

Fig 1: Design: A non-interventional prospective study

Day 1 (Mandatory)

- Screening criteria
- Sociodemographic and clinical characteristics
- Fatigue characteristics
- Impact on professional life
- Expectations and solutions to manage fatigue
- FSIQ-RMS symptom items (7)

Day 2 to 6 (at least 2/5)

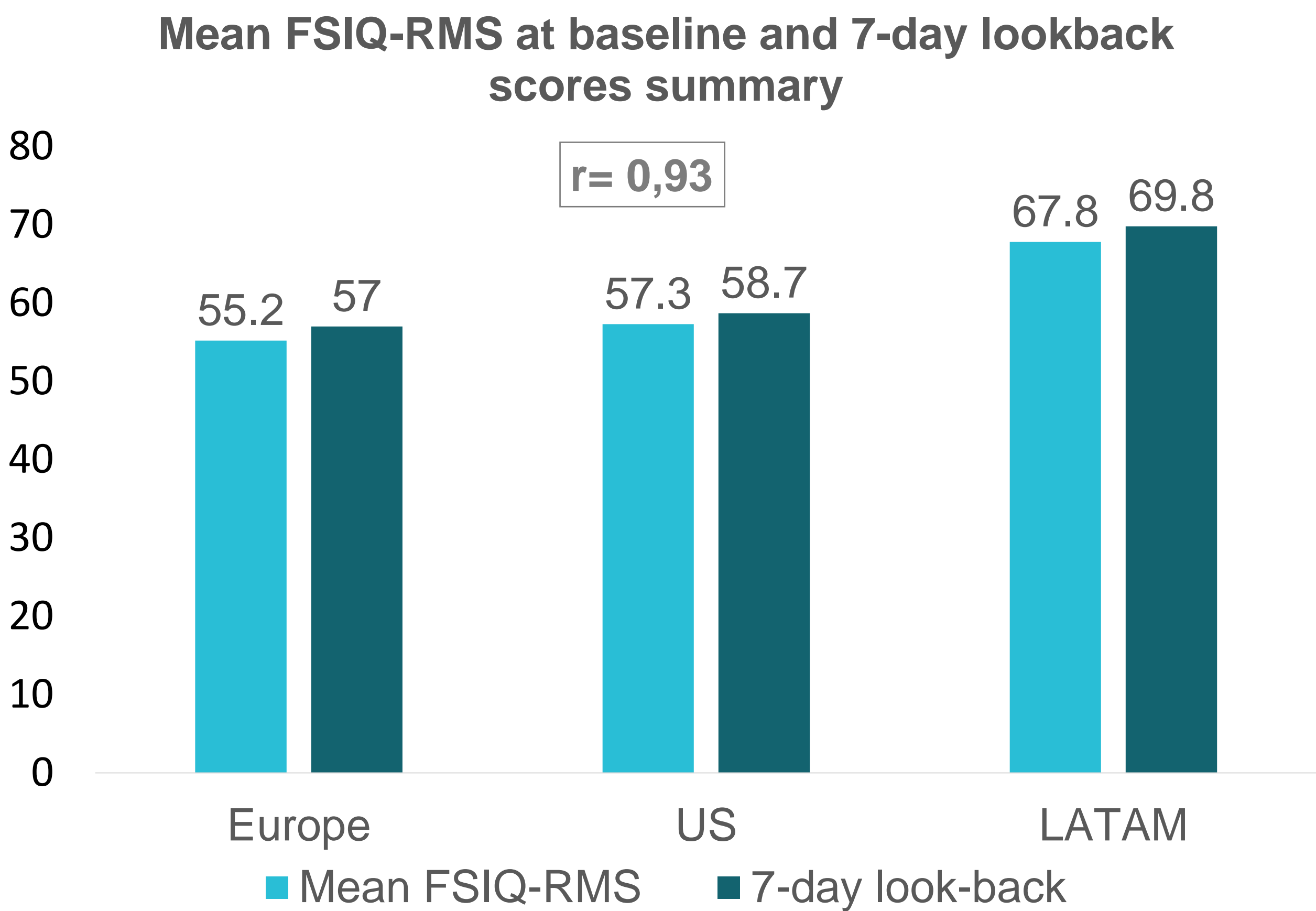
- FSIQ-RMS symptom items (7)

Day 7 (Mandatory)

- FSIQ-RMS symptom items (7)
- FSIQ-RMS impact items (13)
- 7-day lookback on fatigue symptoms
- Current relapse
- Quality of sleep
- Unusual factors influencing fatigue

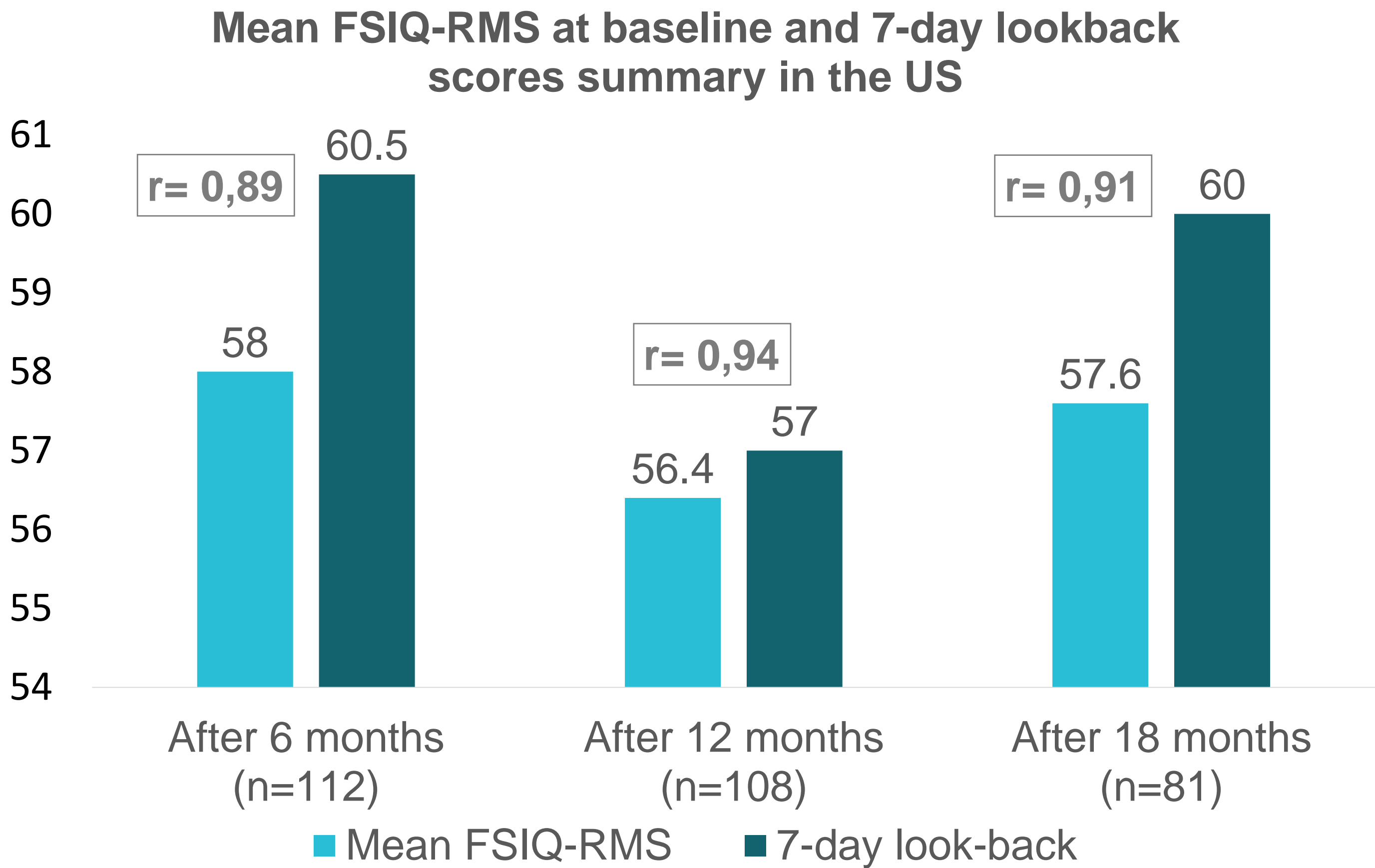
RESULTS

Fig 2: Mean FSIQ-RMS symptom scores at baseline and 7-day lookback summary



For all regions, there is high similarity between the FSIQ-RMS daily symptom score and its 7-day retrospective assessment. The correlation between FSIQ-RMS and 7-day lookback was 0.93.

Fig 3: FSIQ-RMS symptom and 7-day lookback in the US after 6 months, 12 months, and 18 months



All correlation coefficients were close to one, indicating a strong correlation between the two scores (r-ranges between [0.89-0.94]).

CONCLUSIONS

- The Mean **FSIQ-RMS symptom scores at baseline and 7-day lookback** were mostly similar across Europe and US respondents. However, they were slightly higher for LATAM respondents.
- We found **high similarity** between the FSIQ-RMS daily symptom score and its 7-day retrospective assessment in different regions and at different points in the analysis.
- The results suggest that the 7-day lookback assessment is reliable.

REFERENCES

1. Khan F, Amatya B, Galea M. Management of fatigue in persons with multiple sclerosis. Front Neurol. 2014.
2. Hudgens S, Schüler R, Stokes J, Eremenco S, Hunsche E, Leist TP. Development and Validation of the FSIQ-RMS: A New Patient-Reported Questionnaire to Assess Symptoms and Impacts of Fatigue in Relapsing Multiple Sclerosis. Value Health. 2019.
3. www.carenity.com

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