

# Disclosures

- The PROTEUS Consortium has received funding from the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute and unrestricted grants from Genentech and Pfizer
- Dr. Snyder has received consulting fees from Janssen via Health Outcomes Solutions



Optimizing the Use of Patient-Reported Outcomes  
in Clinical Trials to Inform Decision Making:  
**The PROTEUS Consortium**

*Funded by the  
Patient-Centered  
Outcomes Research  
Institute, Genentech,  
and Pfizer*

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Johns Hopkins Schools of Medicine and Public Health



Patient-Reported Outcomes Tools:  
Engaging Users & Stakeholders

[TheProteusConsortium.org](http://TheProteusConsortium.org)

# The PROTEUS Consortium

- **OBJECTIVE**

Ensure that patients, clinicians, and other decision-makers have high-quality PRO data from clinical trials to make the best decisions they can about treatment options

- **APPROACH**

Partner with key stakeholder groups to disseminate and implement tools that have been developed to optimize the use of PROs in clinical trials

# Organizations with PROTEUS Participants\*

AcademyHealth	Industry (GlaxoSmithKline)
American Cancer Society	International Society for Quality of Life Research
American Society for Radiation Oncology	ISPOR
American Society of Clinical Oncology	Medical journal editors
Australian Clinical Trials Alliance	Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency
Canadian Association of Radiation Oncology	National Cancer Institute
Cancer Australia	National Cancer Research Institute (UK)
Consolidated Standards for Reporting of Trials (CONSORT)	National Clinical Trials Network PRO representatives
Critical Path Institute PRO Consortium	National Coalition for Cancer Survivorship
European Medicines Agency-Scientific Advice Working Party / Dutch Medicines Evaluation Board	National Institute for Health and Care Excellence
	Oncology Nursing Society
European Organization for the Research and Treatment of Cancer (EORTC)	Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute
Food & Drug Administration (FDA)	Society for Clinical Trials
Health Canada	Standard Protocol Items: Recommendations for Interventional Trials (SPIRIT)

# Trials Steering Committee



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**Bryce Reeve, PhD**  
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**Madeleine King, PhD**  
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**Elissa Thorner, MHS**  
Patient Advocate

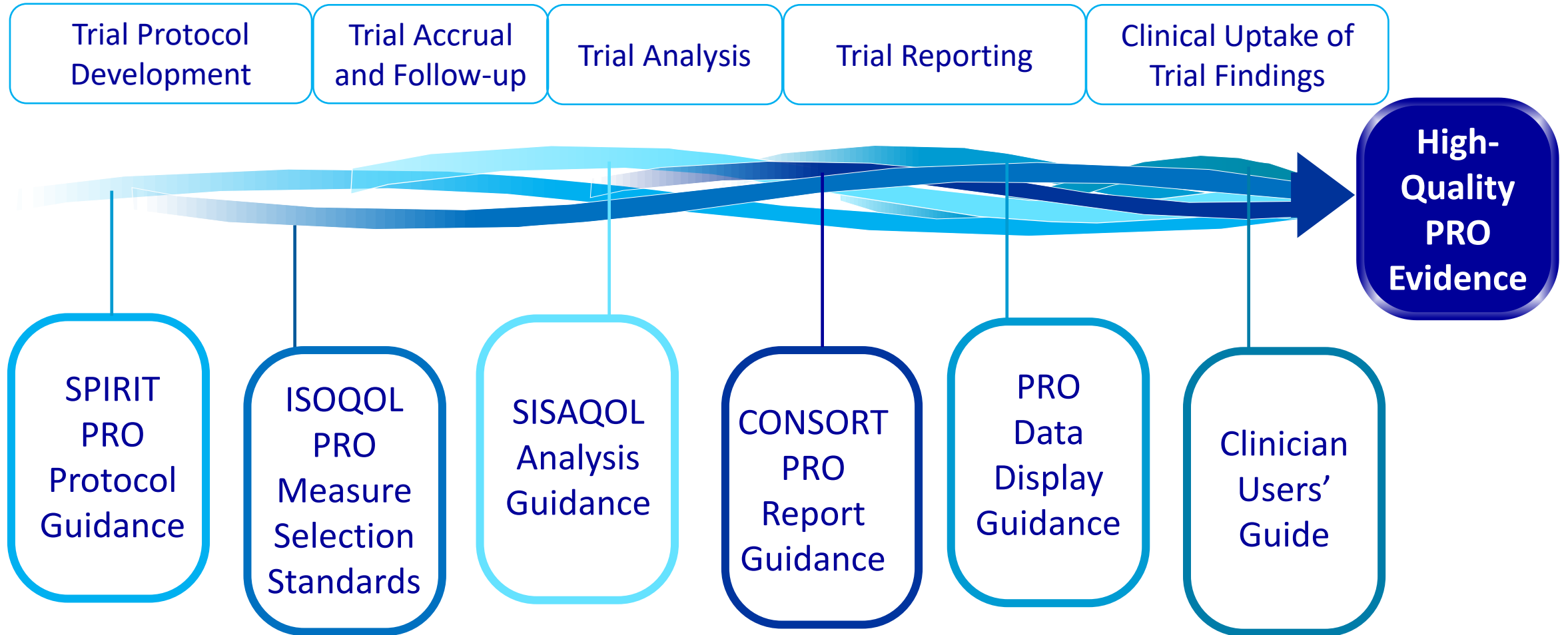
# The PROTEUS Consortium's Objective

- Ensure that patients, clinicians, and other decision-makers have high-quality PRO data from clinical trials
- Requires a **SMART** approach:
  - **Specifying** the PRO methods appropriately
  - **Measuring** the PROs effectively
  - **Analyzing** the PRO data properly
  - **Reporting** the PRO results clearly
  - **Translating** the PRO findings in practice

# The PROTEUS Consortium's Rationale

- Clinical trial protocols are often sub-optimal with regard to their PRO components
- Clinical trial reporting of the PRO components is often sub-optimal or doesn't happen at all
  - *Tools are available to improve trial protocol design, execution, reporting and uptake with regard to PRO endpoints*

# PROTEUS Roadmap



# “6 Tools-1 Paper Paper”

Short Communication

**CLINICAL  
TRIALS**

## **The PROTEUS-Trials Consortium: Optimizing the use of patient-reported outcomes in clinical trials**

*Clinical Trials*

1–8

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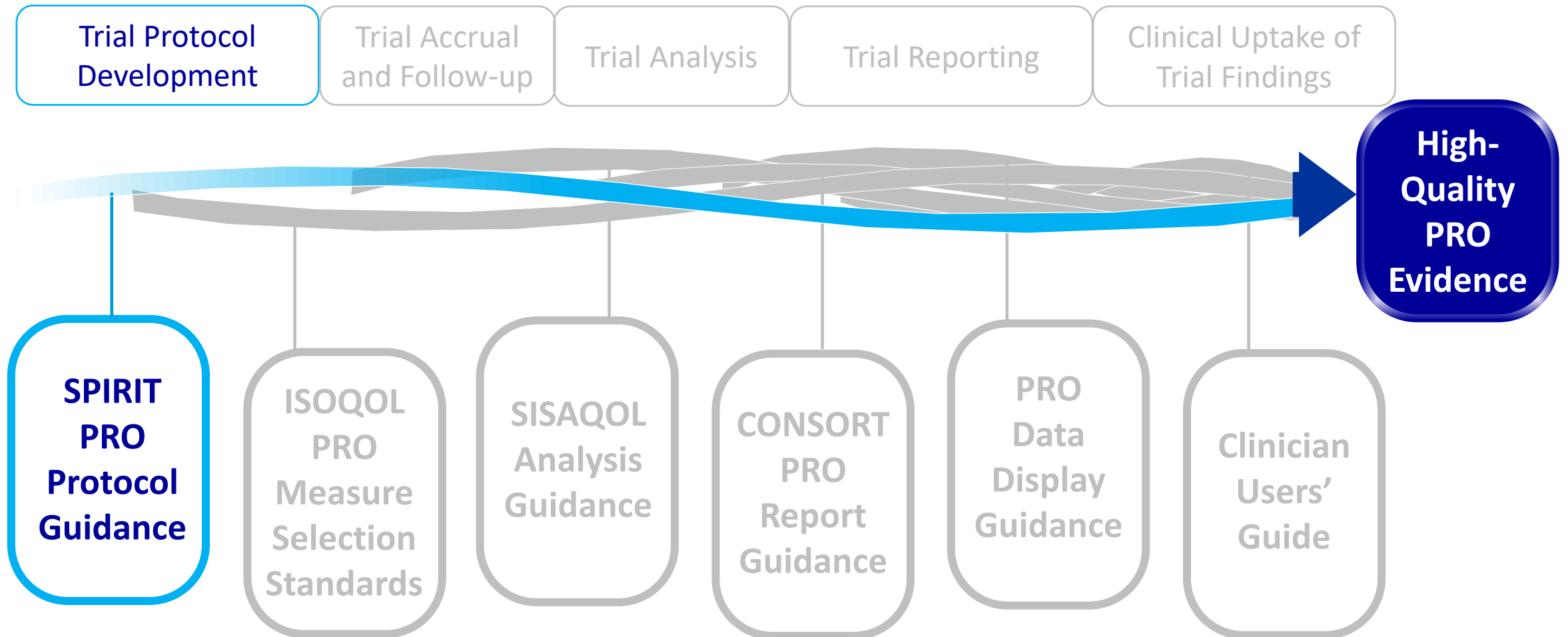
DOI: 10.1177/17407745221077691

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**Claire Snyder<sup>1,2,3</sup>  Norah Crossnohere<sup>4</sup> Madeleine King<sup>5</sup> Bryce B Reeve<sup>6</sup>  
Andrew Bottomley<sup>7</sup> Melanie Calvert<sup>8,9,10,11,12</sup> Elissa Thorner<sup>1,3</sup>  
Albert W Wu<sup>1,2</sup> and Michael Brundage<sup>13</sup>; for the PROTEUS-Trials  
Consortium**

# Specifying PRO Methods Appropriately



JAMA | Special Communication

# Guidelines for Inclusion of Patient-Reported Outcomes in Clinical Trial Protocols The SPIRIT-PRO Extension

Melanie Calvert, PhD; Derek Kyte, PhD; Rebecca Mercieca-Bebb  
An-Wen Chan, MD, DPhil; Madeleine T. King, PhD; and the SPIRIT

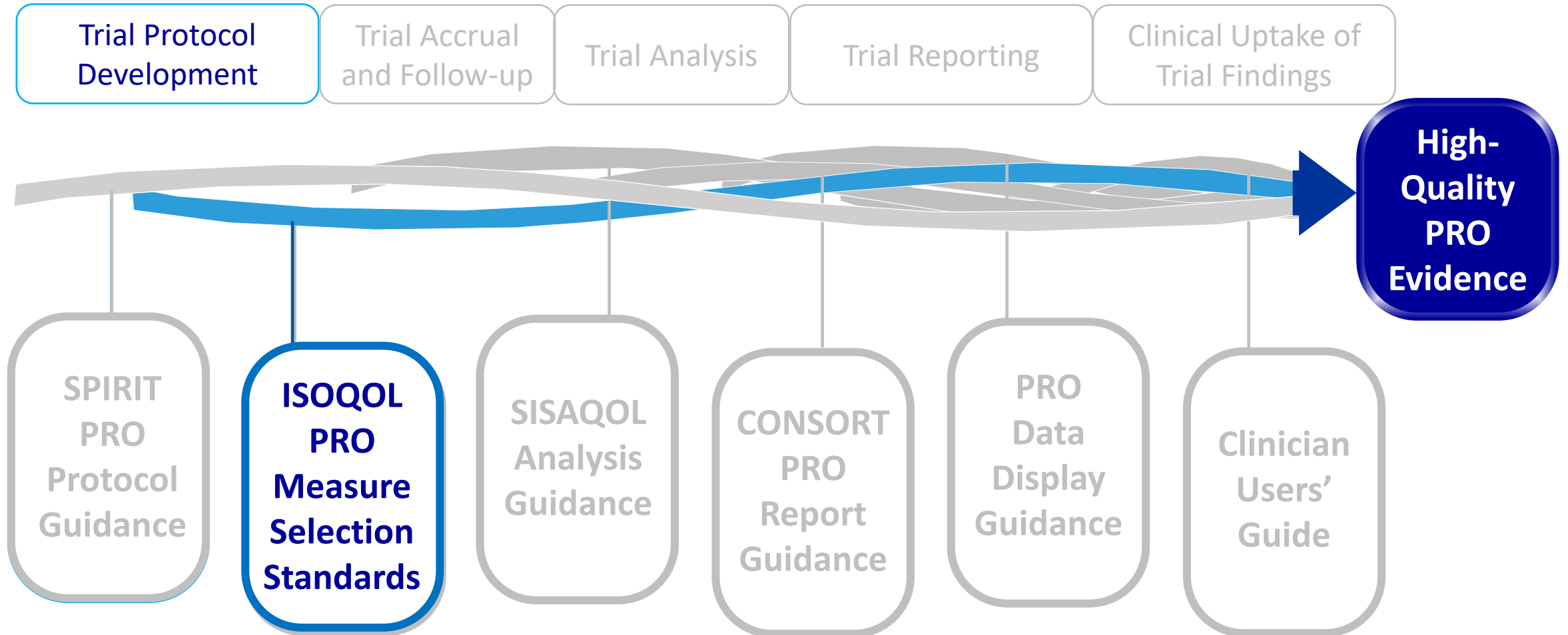
**IMPORTANCE** Patient-reported outcome (PRO) data provide evidence to inform shared decision making, labeling policy; however, the PRO content of clinical trial protocols (Standard Protocol Items: Recommendations for Interventional Trials) published in 2013 and aims to improve the completeness of evidence-based recommendations for the minimum content does not provide PRO-specific guidance.

**OBJECTIVE** To develop international, consensus-based guidelines (the SPIRIT-PRO Extension).

## Specifying PRO Methods Appropriately

- PRO-specific research question, rationale, relevant previous findings
- PRO-specific objectives or hypotheses
- PRO-specific eligibility criteria (if any)
- PRO concepts/domains and related analysis metric used to evaluate the intervention
- PRO measure description and psychometrics
- Data collection plan
- Available language versions
- Justification for proxy reporting (if relevant)
- Strategies to minimize and address missing data
- Whether PRO data will be monitored to inform care

# Measuring PROs Effectively



# ISOQOL recommends minimum standards for patient-reported outcome measures used in patient-centered outcomes and comparative effectiveness research

Bryce B. Reeve · Kathleen W. Wyrwich · Albert W. Wu · Galina Velikova ·  
Caroline B. Terwee · Claire F. Snyder · Carolyn Schwartz · Dennis A. Revicki ·  
Carol M. Moinpour · Lori D. McLeod · Jessica C. Lyons · William R. Lenderking ·

Pamela S. Hinds · Ron D. Hays · J  
David Feeny · Peter M. Fayers · Da  
Sara Ahmed · Neil K. Aaronson · Z

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## Measuring PROs Effectively

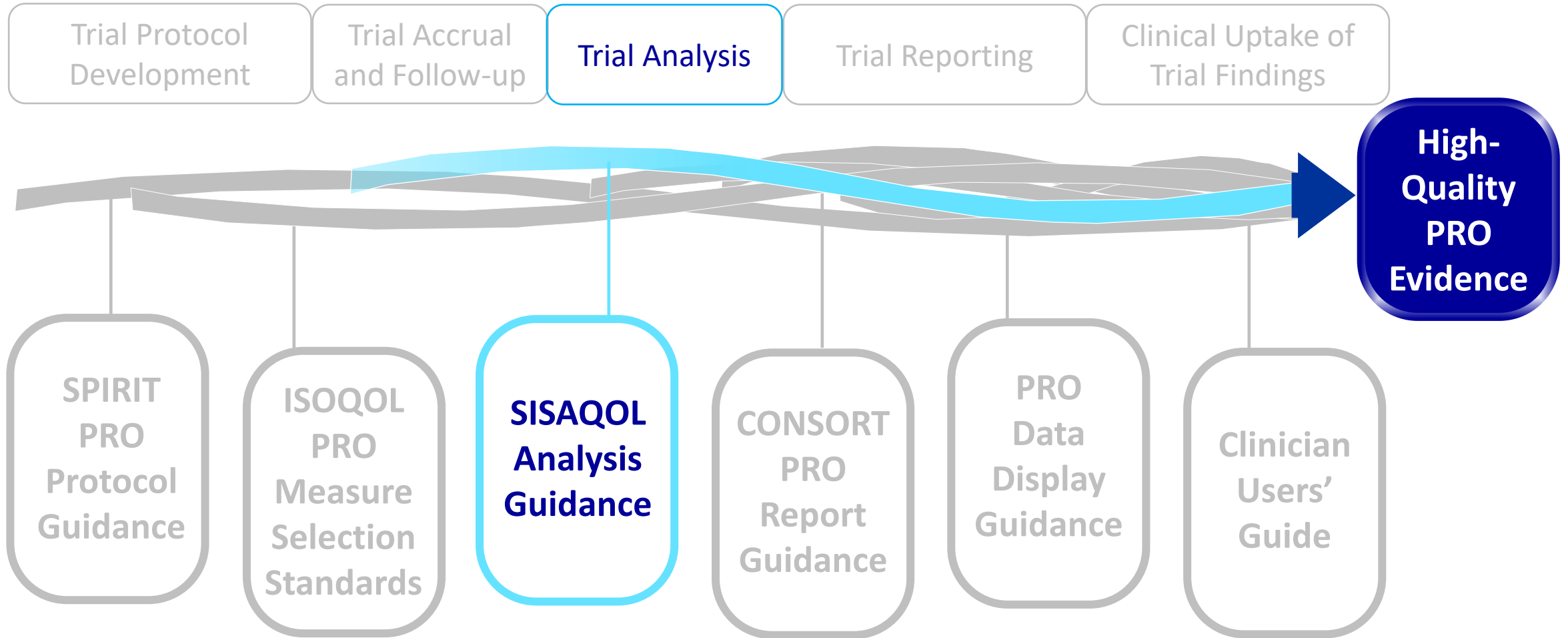
- Conceptual and measurement model, including intended population
- Reliability
- Validity (content, construct, responsiveness)
- Interpretability of scores
- Translations
- Patient and Investigator Burden

# International guidance on quality of life measures in clinical trials

Norah L. Crossnohere<sup>1</sup> · Mihaela M. Crossnohere<sup>1</sup> · Elissa Thorner<sup>6</sup> · Albert W. Wu<sup>1</sup>

Domain	ISOQOL minimum standards	COSMIN Initiative	EMA appendix 2	FDA PRO	FDA PFDD <sup>a</sup>	MOT review criteria	Red-IRYSS EMPRO <sup>b</sup>
Conceptual & measurement model	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Reliability	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Content validity	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Construct validity	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓
Responsiveness	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Interpretability of scores	✓	±	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Translation	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Burden	✓	±	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Additional domains		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Structural validity</li> <li>• Quality assessment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alternative mode of admin</li> <li>• COAs</li> <li>• Special patient populations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alternative mode of admin</li> <li>• Special patient populations</li> <li>• Context of use</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• COAs</li> <li>• Context of use, fit-for-purpose</li> <li>• Special patient populations</li> <li>• Alternate modes of admin</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alternative mode of admin</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alternative mode of admin</li> <li>• Global assessment of instrument by rater</li> </ul>

# Analyzing PRO Data Properly



## International standards for the analysis of quality of life and patient-reported outcome endpoints in randomised controlled trials: recommendations from the Quality of Life Endpoints Data Consortium

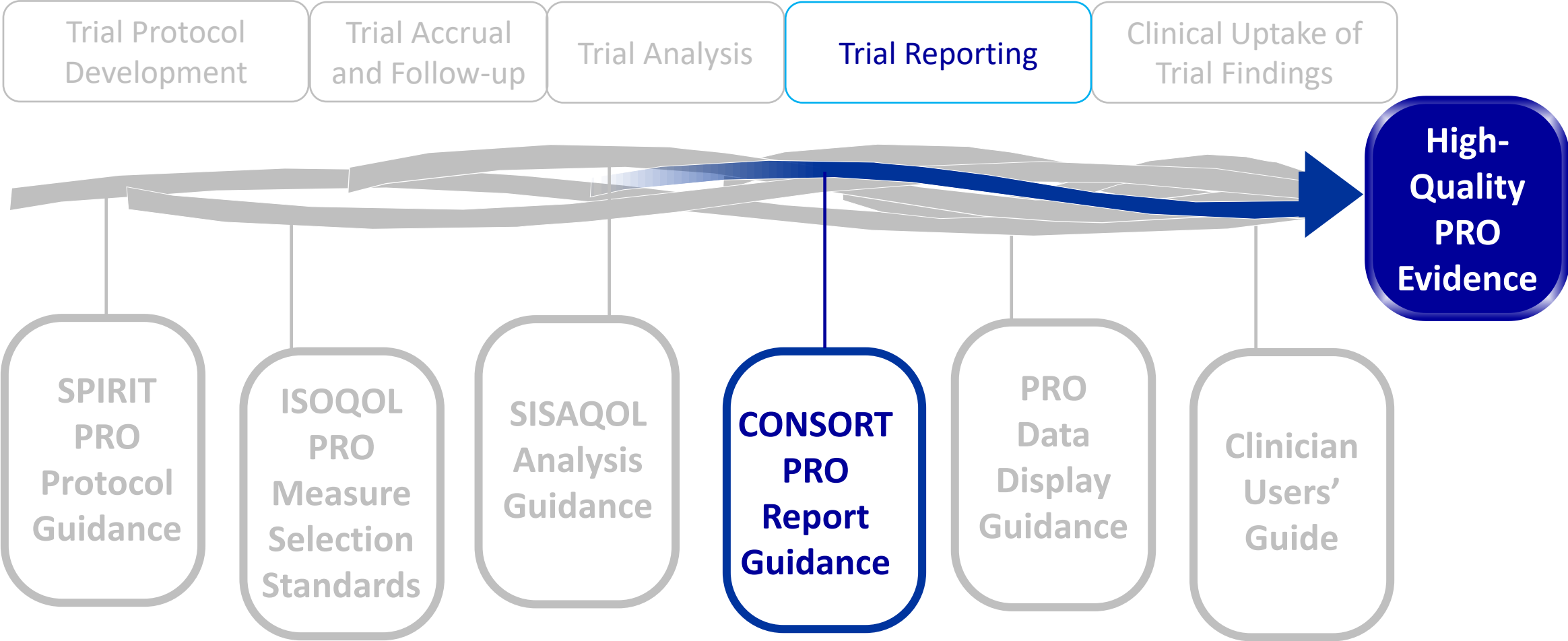
Corneel Coens\*, Madeline Pe\*, Amylou C Dueck, Jeff Sloan, Ethan Basch, Laurence Collette, Nancy Devlin, Lien Dorme, Hans-Henning Flechtner, Colette Gosselin, Paul G Kluetz, Michael Koller, Daniel C Malone, Francesca Martinelli, Sandra Elisabeth Piault-Louis, Martine Piccart, Chantal Quinten, Jaap C Reijnevel, Martin J B Taphoorn, Galina Velikova, Andrew Bottomley; for the Setting Quality of Life Endpoints Data Consortium

Patient-reported outcomes (PROs), such as symptoms, functional status, quality of life, and patient-reported benefits, and tolerability. However, expert opinion and optimal methods of PRO analysis in cancer RCTs, hinder the use of PROs in clinical trials. Standards in Analyzing Patient-Reported Outcomes and Quality of Life Endpoints Data Consortium

### Analyzing PRO Data Properly

- Objectives
  - Broad (e.g., confirmatory comparisons vs. exploratory/descriptive)
  - Between-arm (e.g., superiority or equivalence/non-inferiority)
  - Expectation (e.g., improvement, worsening, overall effect)
  - Endpoint (e.g., proportion of responders at time  $t$ )
- Recommended statistical methods, e.g.:
  - Cox proportional hazards for time-to-event
  - Linear mixed models for magnitude-of-event, describe response patterns/profiles
- Missing PRO data
  - Handling analytically
  - Collecting reasons

# Reporting the PRO Results Clearly (1)



# Reporting of Patient-Reported Outcomes in Randomized Trials

## The CONSORT PRO Extension

Melanie Calvert, PhD

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David Moher, PhD

Michael D. Brundage, MD

for the CONSORT PRO Group

**T**HE CONSORT (CONSOLIDATED Standards of Reporting Trials) Statement, first published in 1996 and most recently revised in 2010,<sup>1,2</sup> provides evidence-based recommendations to improve the completeness of reporting of randomized controlled trials (RCTs). The statement focuses on parallel-group trials, but a number of extensions for reporting other trial designs (cluster, noninferiority, and equivalence), interventions (nonpharmacologic and herbal therapies), and for specific data, such as harms have been developed.<sup>3</sup> The CONSORT Statement is endorsed by major journals and

The CONSORT (Consolidated Standards of Reporting Trials) Statement aims to improve the reporting of randomized controlled trials (RCTs); however, it lacks guidance on the reporting of patient-reported outcomes (PROs), which

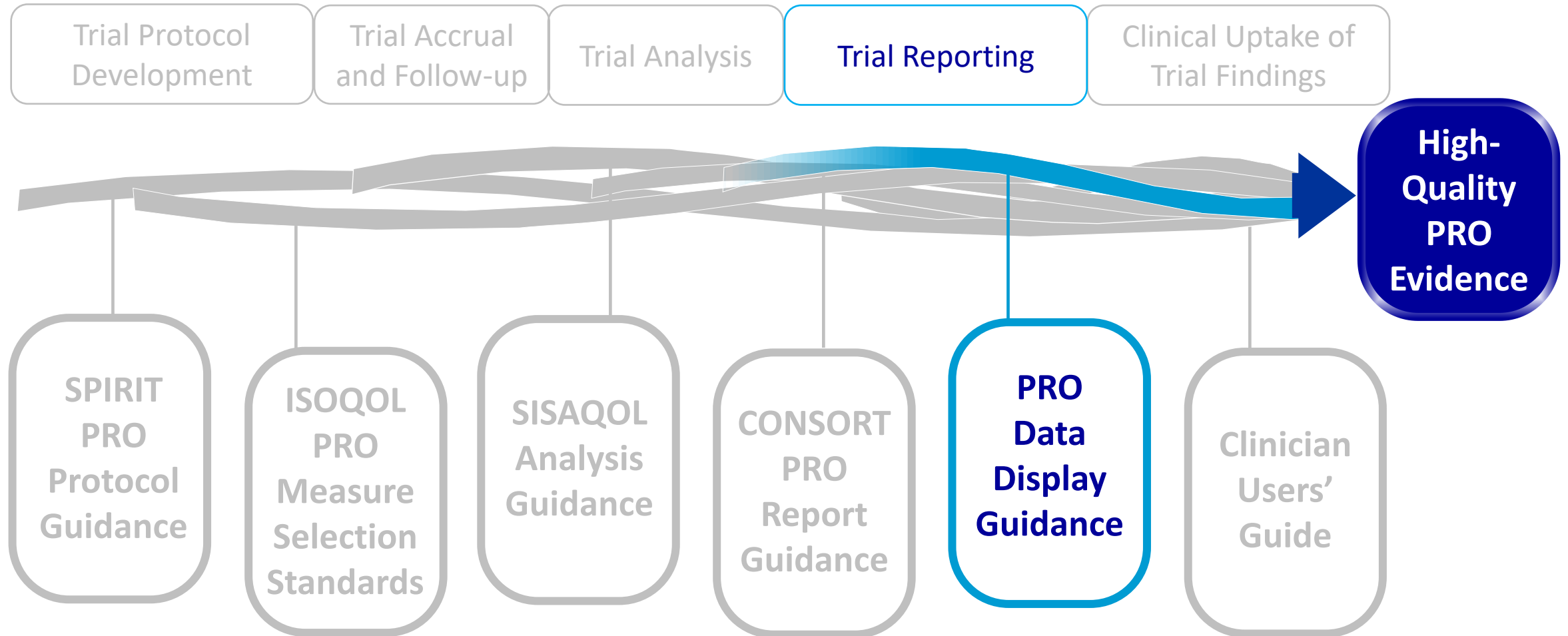
are often inadequately reported. In this article, we describe the method proposed by the Enhancing Reporting of PROs and Clinical Practice (EQUATOR) Network for RCTs in which PROs are reported as primary or secondary outcomes. The PROs and clinical practice be informed with missing data diagram with PRO item PRO guidance supplement RCTs with PROs as primary PRO data should facilitate patient care.

*JAMA. 2013;309(8):814-822*

## Reporting PRO Results Clearly (1)

- Identify PRO as primary or secondary endpoint
- State PRO hypothesis, specifying domains if applicable
- Provide/cite evidence of PRO instrument validity and reliability
- Summarize PRO data collection procedures
- State statistical approaches for dealing with missing data
- Address PRO-specific limitations and implications for generalizability

# Reporting the PRO Results Clearly (2)





# Making a picture worth a thousand numbers: recommendations for graphically displaying patient-reported outcomes data

Claire Snyder<sup>1,2,3</sup> · Katherine Smith<sup>2,3</sup> · Bernhard Holzner<sup>4</sup> · Yonaira M. Rivera<sup>2</sup> · Elissa Bantug<sup>3</sup> · Michael Brundage<sup>5</sup> · PRO Data Presentation Delphi Panel

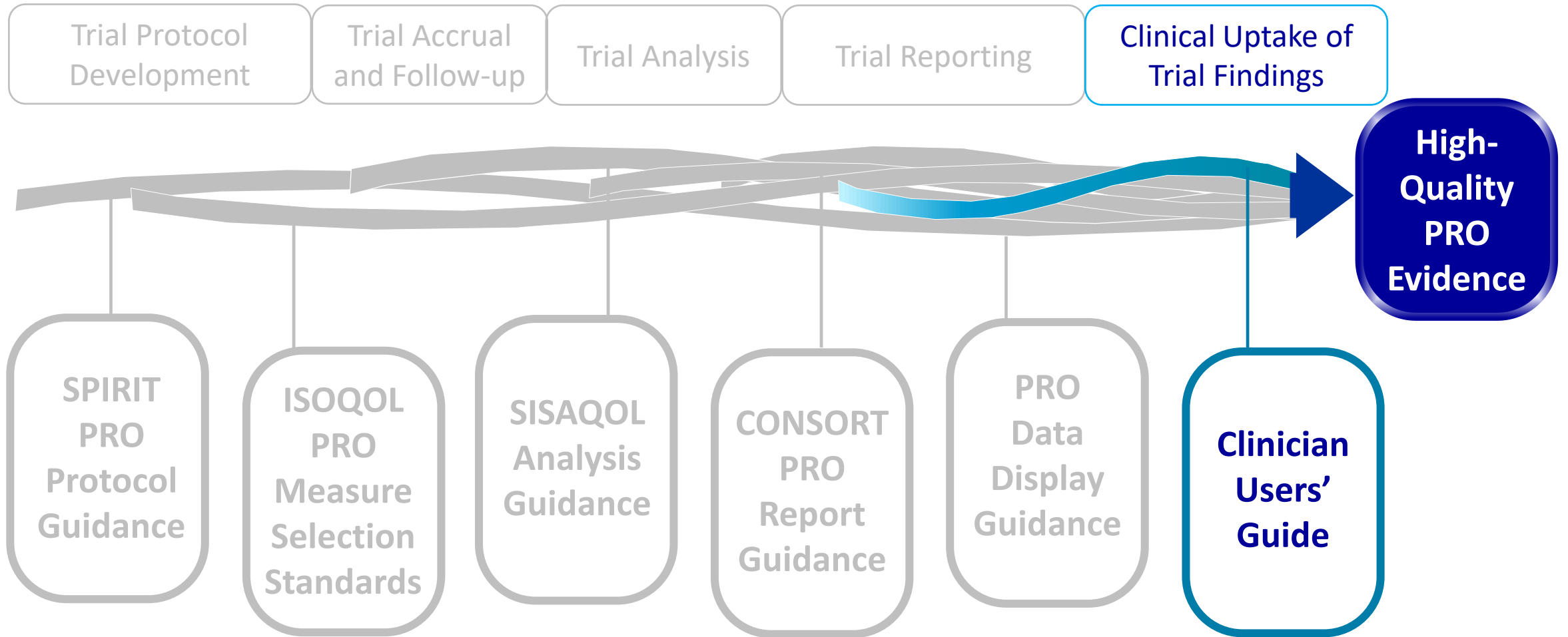
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## Reporting PRO Results Clearly (2)

- Directionality (whether higher scores are better or worse)
- Conveying score meaning
- Conveying statistically significant differences
- Illustrating clinically important differences

# Applying PRO Findings in Practice



# Clinician's Checklist for Reading and Using an Article About Patient-Reported Outcomes

Albert W. Wu, MD, MPH, FACP; Anna N. Bradford, PhD, MSW, LCSW;  
Vic Velanovich, MD; Mirjam A.G. Sprangers, PhD; Michael Brundage, MD, FRCP, MSc;  
and Claire Snyder, PhD

## Abstract

Clinicians need evidence-based medicine to help them make clinical decisions with their patients. For many health problems, the goal of treatment is to help the patient to function and feel better. To measure patient functioning, well-being, and symptoms, questionnaires referred to as patient-reported outcome (PRO) measures are often used. Clinicians are generally not trained in survey design, scale development, and questionnaire administration, making it difficult for them to interpret and effectively use PROs as clinical evidence. It is increasingly important that clinicians be able to understand and use outcomes measured from both the clinical and patient perspectives to inform their decisions. This checklist provides a framework to help practicing clinicians understand clinical research and how it can be used for decision making. This checklist provides a framework to help practicing clinicians consider in evaluating research articles. We propose that clinicians should consider the following when using PROs: study design and PRO assessment strategy, the clinical context of the findings, and generalizability to their own practice. PROs play an increasingly prominent role in clinical research and patient-centered care. Clinicians will need to understand and help them function and feel better. The proposed checklist provides a framework to evaluate PRO studies by determining whether the study design, measurement approach was adequate and properly executed, and the application of the results to a specific patient population.

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## Applying PRO Findings in Practice

1. Was the PRO assessment strategy appropriate?
2. Did they measure PROs effectively?
3. Should I believe the results?
4. Were the results placed in clinical context?
5. Do the results apply to my patients?

## Recommendations for including or reviewing patient reported outcome endpoints in grant applications

Claire Snyder,<sup>1</sup> Alexandra Gilbert,<sup>2</sup> David Moher,<sup>3</sup> Derek Kyte,<sup>4</sup> Ellie Daniels,<sup>5</sup> Madeleine King,<sup>6</sup> Melanie Calvert,<sup>4,7</sup> Ronald C Chen,<sup>8</sup> Michael Brundage,<sup>9</sup> on behalf of the PROTEUS consortium

Patient reported outcomes are increasingly included in research studies to provide the patient perspective. Grant applicants and grant reviewers require guidance on the key information that should be included in funding applications to demonstrate rigorous methods for patient reported outcomes. This paper provides prioritised practical recommendations from an international consortium of experts on patient reported outcomes to inform grant applicants in preparing their research strategies and grant reviewers in evaluating applications.

### Recommendations organized in three categories:

1. Always cover\*  
Assumes 1 paragraph of space is available
2. Cover if PRO is a primary endpoint, or if a second paragraph of space is available\*
3. Cover if space allows

*\*example text provided*

# The PROTEUS Website

TheProteusConsortium.org



search

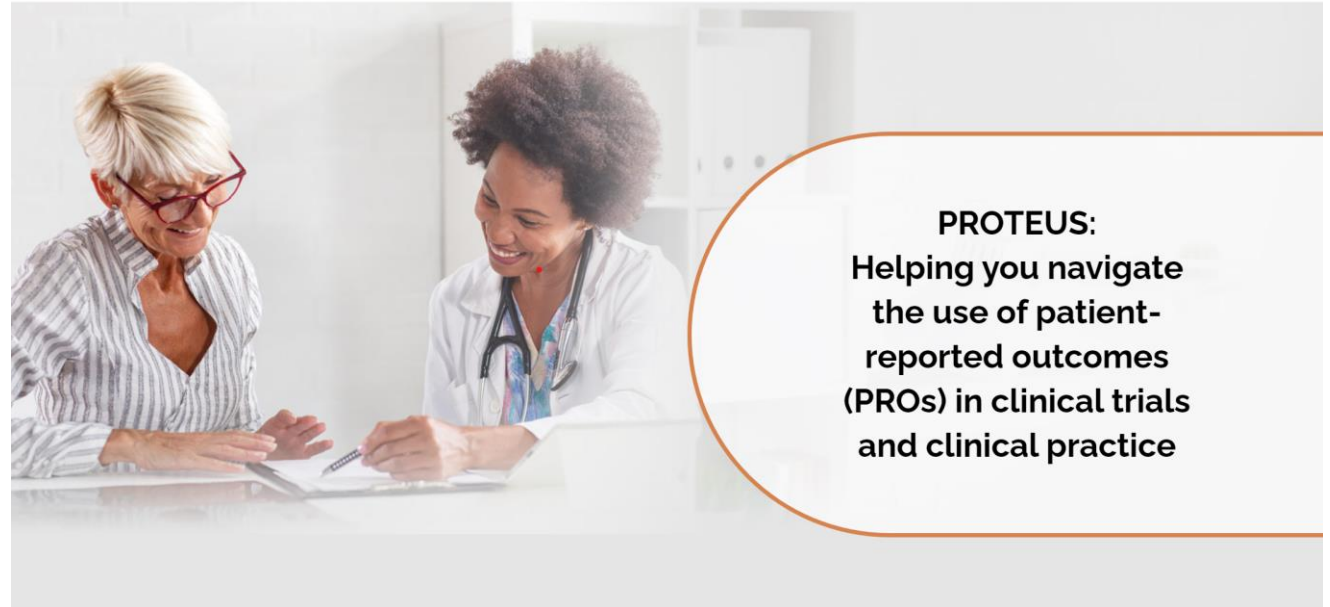


About

PROTEUS Trials

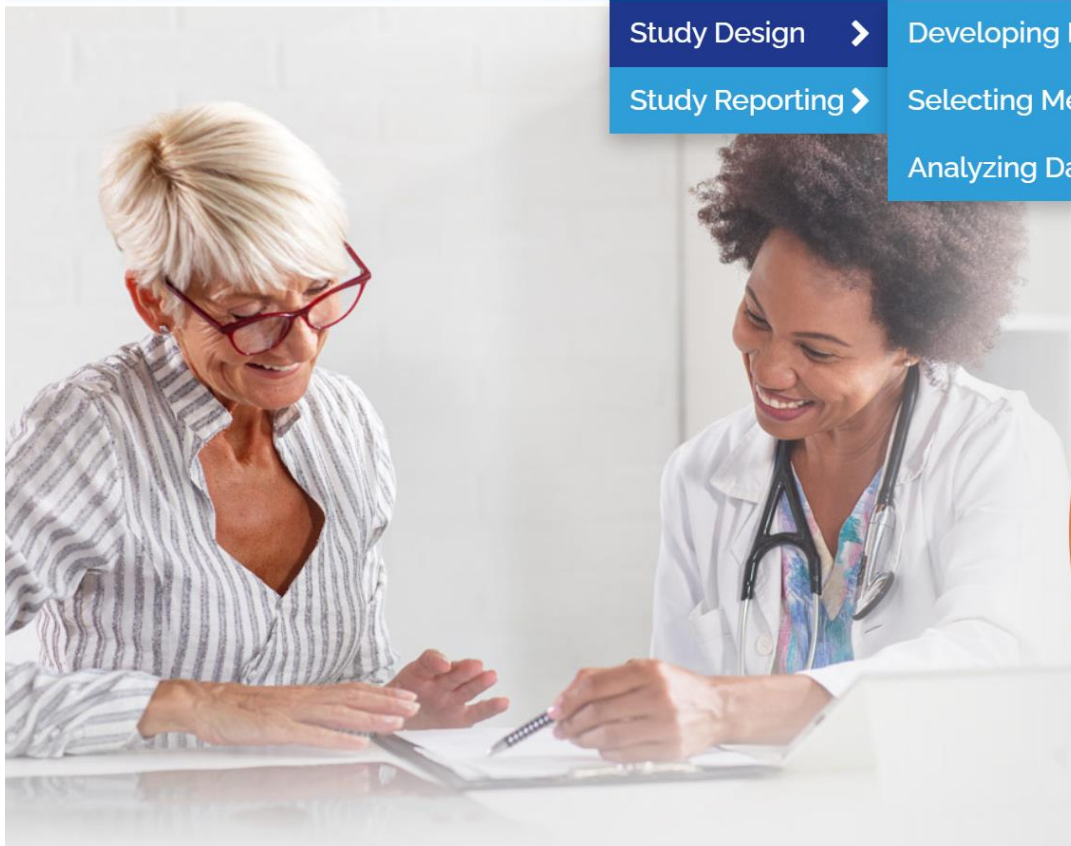
PROTEUS Practice

Navigating PROTEUS



**PROTEUS:**  
Helping you navigate  
the use of patient-  
reported outcomes  
(PROs) in clinical trials  
and clinical practice

- Study Design >
- Study Reporting >
- Developing Protocols
- Selecting Measures
- Analyzing Data



**PROTEUS:**  
Helping you navigate  
the use of patient-  
reported outcomes  
(PROs) in clinical trials  
and clinical practice

## PROTEUS — TRIALS



### DEVELOPING PROTOCOLS [SPIRIT-PRO]

Patient-reported outcome (PRO) data from clinical trials can provide valuable evidence to inform shared decision making, labeling claims, clinical guidelines, and health policy.

The paper **Guidelines for Inclusion of Patient-Reported Outcomes in Clinical Trial Protocols: The SPIRIT-PRO Extension** recommends best practices for writing the PRO aspects of randomized controlled trial protocols by specifying the items that are critical to address when PROs are primary or key secondary outcomes.

The SPIRIT-PRO Extension builds on the general 2013 SPIRIT clinical trial protocols [guidance](#) by addressing the minimum elements related to PROs that should be included.

### SPIRIT-PRO BENEFITS

Using SPIRIT-PRO guidance provides benefits to stakeholders by:

- Helping protocol writers improve PRO trial design by encouraging and facilitating careful planning of PRO components.
- Helping protocol reviewers, research ethics committees, and patient partners assess PRO elements.
- Helping trial staff and patient participants understand the rationale for PRO assessment and improve PRO data completeness and quality.

### CORE RESOURCES



Article

**Guidelines for Inclusion of Patient-Reported Outcomes in Clinical Trial Protocols: The SPIRIT-PRO Extension**

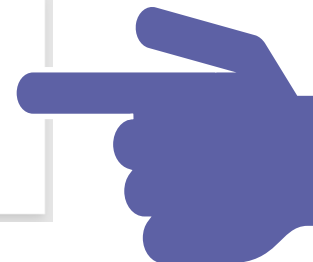
[Learn more →](#)



Checklist

**The Spirit PRO Protocol Guidance Checklist**

[Learn more →](#)



## The SPIRIT-PRO Protocol Guidance Checklist

Protocol Section	SPIRIT-PRO Item	Recommended Content	Page Addressed
<b>Administrative Information</b>			
Roles and responsibilities	SPIRIT-5a-PRO Extension	Specify the individual(s) responsible for the PRO content of the trial protocol.	
<b>Introduction</b>			
Background and rationale	SPIRIT-6a-PRO Extension	Describe the PRO-specific research question and rationale for PRO assessment and summarize PRO findings in relevant studies.	
Objectives	SPIRIT-7-PRO Extension	State specific PRO objectives or hypotheses (including relevant PRO concepts/domains).	
<b>Methods: Participants, Interventions, and Outcomes</b>			
Eligibility criteria	SPIRIT-10-PRO Extension	Specify any PRO-specific eligibility criteria (eg, language/reading requirements or pre-randomization completion of PRO). If PROs will not be collected from the entire study sample, provide a rationale and describe the method for obtaining the PRO subsample.	
Outcomes	SPIRIT-12-PRO Extension	Specify the PRO concepts/domains used to evaluate the intervention (eg, overall health-related quality of life, specific domain, specific symptom) and, for each one, the analysis metric (eg, change from baseline, final value, time to event) and the principal time point or period of interest.	
Participant timeline	SPIRIT-13-PRO Extension	Include a schedule of PRO assessments, providing a rationale for the time points, and justifying if the initial assessment is not pre-randomization. Specify time windows, whether PRO collection is prior to clinical assessments, and, if using multiple questionnaires, whether order of administration will be standardized.	
Sample size	SPIRIT-14-PRO Extension	When a PRO is the primary end point, state the required sample size (and how it was determined) and recruitment target (accounting for expected loss to follow-up). If sample size is not established based on the PRO end point, then discuss the power of the principal PRO analyses.	

# Specifying PRO Methods Appropriately: The SPIRIT-PRO Extension Protocol Guidance

Melanie Calvert, PhD and Madeleine King, PhD



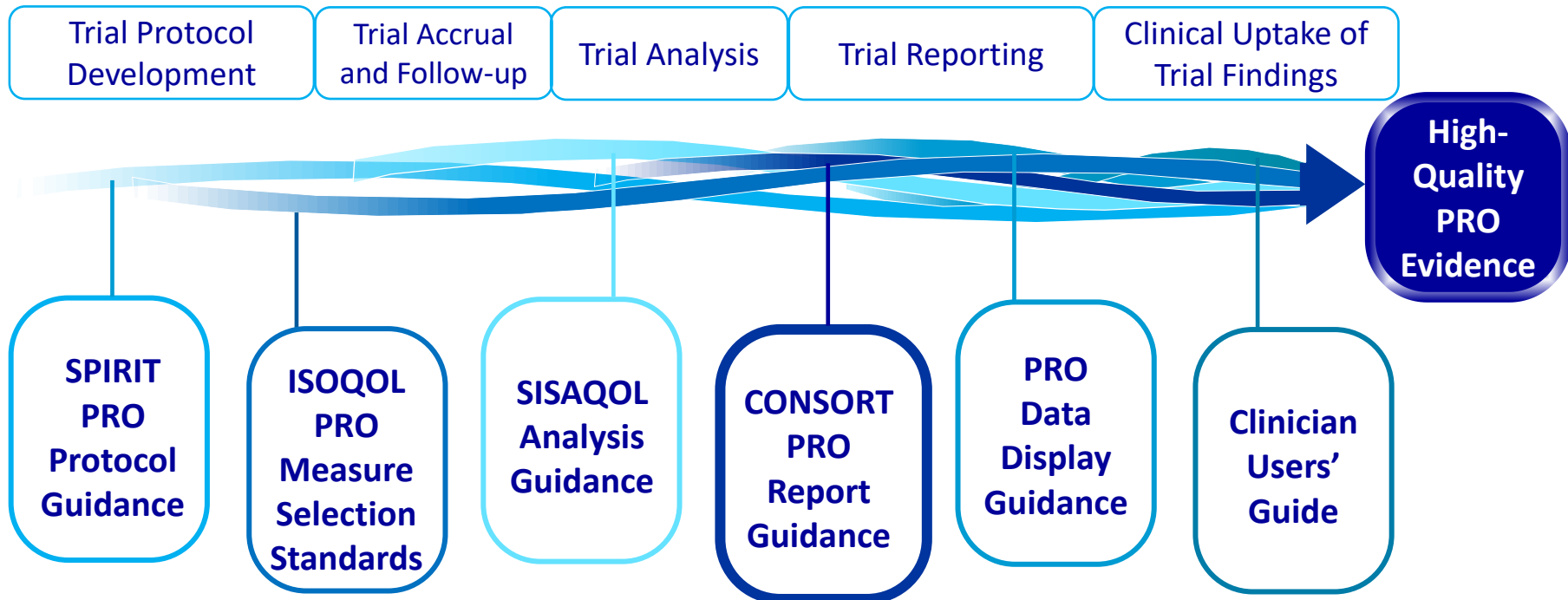
*Funded by the Patient-Centered Outcomes  
Research Institute and Genentech*

**PROTEUS**  
Patient-Reported Outcomes Tools:  
Engaging Users and Stakeholders

# Overview of Web Tutorials

Introduction to PROs and PROTEUS

Introduction to the PROTEUS Tools



Overview of Tool Recommendations

How to Apply the Tools

# The PROTEUS-Trials Consortium

## Patient-Reported Outcome Tools Engaging Users & Stakeholders

# PROTEUS

## Handbook

TheProteusConsortium.org



### Contents

<i>PROTEUS-Trials Leadership Team</i> .....	1
<i>Steering Committee</i> .....	2
<b>Chapter 1. Introduction to Patient-Reported Outcomes and PROTEUS-Trials</b> .....	3
Types of Clinical Outcomes Assessment .....	3
Patient-Reported Outcomes (PROs) .....	4
How are Patient Perceptions 'Measured'? .....	4
Example: Physical Function Measure .....	4
The PROTEUS-Trials Consortium .....	5
Organizations with PROTEUS-Trials Participants* .....	5
The PROTEUS-Trials Consortium's Objective .....	6
PRO Tools for PROTEUS-Trials.....	6
The PROTEUS-Trials Roadmap .....	7
References .....	8
<b>Chapter 2. Writing PRO Protocols</b> .....	9
Why is This Resource Needed? .....	10
Objective of the Resource.....	10
Methods for Resource Development.....	10
Overview of the SPIRIT-PRO Guidance .....	11
SPIRIT-PRO items by Protocol Sections.....	12
Administrative Information & Introduction.....	12
Methods: Participants, Interventions, and Outcomes .....	13
Methods: Data Collection, Management, and Analysis .....	15
Methods: Monitoring.....	20
Implications of Using SPIRIT-PRO Guidance .....	21
Checklist for the SPIRIT-PRO Protocol Guidance .....	22
References .....	24
Further Reading .....	24
<b>Chapter 3. Selecting PRO Measures</b> .....	25
Why is This Resource Needed? .....	26
Objective of Resource.....	26
Methods for Resource Development.....	27
Summary of Recommendations .....	27
Conceptual and Measurement Model.....	28
Reliability .....	28

### Overview of the SPIRIT-PRO Guidance



- To be used in conjunction with the SPIRIT 2013 Statement and related extensions
- 5 elaborations on existing SPIRIT 2013 checklist items as applied to PROs in trial protocols
- 11 extensions – additional PRO-specific items recommended for trial protocols where PROs are a primary or important secondary outcome

The SPIRIT-PRO guidance constitutes an extension to the SPIRIT 2013 statement that guides the reporting of various parts of the trial protocol sections. The key items relevant to the reporting of PROs include the following:

#### Introduction

- Describe PRO-specific research question, rationale, and relevant previous findings
- State PRO-specific objectives or hypotheses (including relevant PRO concepts/domains)

#### Methods – Participants, Interventions, Outcomes

- Specify any PRO-specific eligibility criteria
- Specify the PRO concepts/domains used to evaluate the intervention and related analysis metric

#### Methods – Data Collection, Management and Analysis

- Describe the PRO measure and its psychometric characteristics
- Include a data collection plan (e.g., time points, mode, setting)
- Specify language versions available
- State and justify use of proxy reporting, if relevant
- Specify strategies to minimize missing data and address missing data in analysis

#### Harms

- State whether PRO data will be monitored to inform clinical care

The specific elaborations and extensions are detailed below.

# PROTEUS



PROTEUS

Trials



PROTEUS

Practice

# Today's Presenters



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THANK YOU

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