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Adhering to best practice guidelines in outcomes measurement

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We read with great interest the recent review of Asakawa et al (2016). In their opening section the authors review what they term as ‘subjective assessments for motor symptoms’ in which they include a number of patient reported outcome measures (PROMs), one of which is the 39-item Parkinson’s Disease Questionnaire (PDQ-39). As developers of the PDQ-39 (Peto et al, 1995; Jenkinson et al, 2012) and its e-based equivalent the ePDQ (Morley et al, 2014; Morley et al 2015), our attention was initially drawn to some rather striking errors in one of the tables in the article. Under Table 1, the PDQ-39 is listed as a ‘scale for subjective evaluation of motor symptoms’. The PDQ-39 is, in fact, a measure of health related quality of life and has been used as such in over 500 trials and studies listed in PubMed. Additionally, the PDQ-39 is described as ‘somewhat complicated’. There is no evidence for this as both the PDQ-39 and ePDQ have been shown to be highly acceptable to

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