

### Appendix 1

If we apply the concept of hypothesis testing to describe the power of our study given that 117 patients were included and we had an observed proportion of 16.2% with a null hypothesis of 10% and a significance level of 0.05. our power would be the following:

Standard error under null hypothesis

$$SE = \sqrt{\frac{p_0 \cdot (1 - p_0)}{n}} = \sqrt{0.000769}$$

Now calculating the Z score for the observed proportion

$$Z = \frac{\text{Observed proportion} - \text{Null hypothesis proportion}}{SE} = \frac{0.162 - 0.10}{0.0277} = 2.24$$

Now calculating the power from the Z score table using the standard normal distribution leads to an approximate power of 98.75%.

### Appendix 2 Questionnaires

#### EORTC QLQ-C30

Scale	Patient 1	Patient 2			Patient 3	Patient 4	Patient 5
	3-4 weeks	3-4 weeks	3 months	6 months	3-4 weeks	3-4 weeks	3-4 weeks
Global health status/QoL*							
Global health status/QoL	83.33	33.33	33.33	33.33	33.33	58.33	50.0
Functional scales*							
Physical functioning	66.67	20.00	33.33	40.00	46.67	46.67	93.33
Role functioning	83.33	0	0	16.67	0	16.67	66.67
Emotional functioning	88.89	50.00	58.33	91.67	75.00	33.33	58.33
Cognitive functioning	83.33	33.33	16.67	33.33	50.00	66.67	66.67
Social functioning	100	0	16.67	100	0	66.67	83.33
Symptom scales/items*							
Fatigue	55.56	100.00	88.89	77.78	77.78	55.56	33.33
Nausea and vomiting	0	66.67	0	0	16.67	0	0
Pain	33.33	100.00	100.00	66.67	100.00	100.00	33.33
Dyspnea	33.33	33.33	100.00	100.00	66.67	66.67	66.67
Insomnia	33.33	66.67	100.00	66.67	33.33	100.00	0
Appetite loss	0	100.00	66.67	100.00	33.33	33.33	33.33
Constipation	0	33.33	0	0	0	100.0	0
Diarrhoea	0	0	0	0	33.33	0	0
Financial difficulties	33.33	33.33	0	33.33	0	0	0

\*, a higher score represents a higher (“better”) level of functioning, or a higher (“worse”) level of symptoms. QoL, quality of life.

DN4 and HADS

Scale	Patient 1	Patient 2		Patient 3	Patient 4	Patient 5
	3-4 weeks	3-4 weeks	3 months	6 months	3-4 weeks	3-4 weeks
DN4*	2	4	6	4	5	5
Anxiety**	6	13	11	6	4	5
Depression**	5	20	18	14	8	6

\*, a score  $\geq 4$  indicates symptoms of neuropathic pain; \*\*, a subscale score of  $>8$  points out of a possible 21 denotes considerable symptoms of anxiety or depression. DN4, Douleur Neuropathique 4 (Neuropathic Pain Diagnostic Questionnaire).

McGill Pain Questionnaire

Scale	Patient 1	Patient 2			Patient 3	Patient 4	Patient 5
	3-4 weeks	3-4 weeks	3 months	6 months	3-4 weeks	3-4 weeks	3-4 weeks
How long do you have the pain?	Weeks	4 weeks	4 months	8 months	3 weeks	10 days	3 weeks
How did it start?	After operation	After the operation	Acutely	Acutely	Acutely after the operation	Acutely	Gradual
Does the pain stay at the same location?	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Does the pain refer to other locations?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Describe the pain	The pain changes intensity but is never gone	The pain changes intensity but is never gone	The pain changes intensity but is never gone	The pain changes intensity but is never gone	-	The pain changes intensity but is never gone	The pain changes intensity but is never gone
Description pain	Drilling, burning, itchy, annoying, nagging	Flashing, drilling, lacerating, pressing, burning, tight, persistent, exhausting, depressing, annoying	Shooting, stabbing, cutting, stringing, splitting, flaming, tight, persistent, exhausting, depressing, oppressive	stabbing, sharp, pinching, burning, glowing, tight, tiring, moderate, annoying	Pinching, splitting, annoying, burning, ice cold, itchy, tight, nagging, tiring	Shooting, stinging, stabbing, tight, nagging, depressing, annoying, tense, terrible	Stinging, pulling, burning, nagging, tiring, disturbing, agonizing, annoying
How many hours did you have pain yesterday?	-	24	24	-	-	24	-
Did you have to rest due to the pain yesterday?	Yes, 1.5 hour	Yes, 20 hours	No	No	-	Yes, 18-20 hours	No
Did you lay awake due to the pain yesterday?	No	Yes, every 2 hours	Yes, until 3am	No	-	Yes, 4 hours	No
Did you have pain when you woke up this morning?	A little	Terribly	A little	Terribly	-	Terribly	No
Did the pain impede you from your normal duties yesterday?	No	Terribly	Terribly	A little	-	Terribly	No
Did the pain impede your hobbies, sport or relax time yesterday?	No	Terribly	Terribly	A little	-	Terribly	No
Did you feel lifeless due to the pain yesterday?	No	Terribly	Terribly	A little	-	Quite	No
Do you use pain killers?	Sometimes, paracetamol	Yes, fentanyl plaster 25 mcg, abstral sometimes	Yes, fentanyl plaster 25 mcg	Yes, paracetamol	-	Yes, naproxen 4dd275 mg and paracetamol 8x500 mg	Yes, 3x1000 mg paracetamol