

CONSORT Checklist of items to include when reporting a randomized trial



| PAPER SECTION And topic | Item | Description | Reported on Page # |
|--|------|---|--------------------------|
| <i>TITLE & ABSTRACT</i> | 1 | <u>How participants were allocated to interventions</u> (e.g., "random allocation", "randomized", or "randomly assigned"). | |
| <i>INTRODUCTION</i> Background | 2 | <u>Scientific background and explanation of rationale.</u> | |
| <i>METHODS</i> Participants | 3 | <u>Eligibility criteria for participants</u> and the <u>settings and locations where the data were collected.</u> | |
| Interventions | 4 | <u>Precise details of the interventions intended for each group and how and when they were actually administered.</u> | |
| Objectives | 5 | <u>Specific objectives and hypotheses.</u> | |
| Outcomes | 6 | <u>Clearly defined primary and secondary outcome measures</u> and, when applicable, any <u>methods used to enhance the quality of measurements</u> (e.g., multiple observations, training of assessors). | |
| Sample size | 7 | <u>How sample size was determined</u> and, when applicable, <u>explanation of any interim analyses and stopping rules.</u> | |
| Randomization -- Sequence generation | 8 | <u>Method used to generate the random allocation sequence, including details of any restrictions</u> (e.g., blocking, stratification) | |
| Randomization -- Allocation concealment | 9 | <u>Method used to implement the random allocation sequence</u> (e.g., numbered containers or central telephone), clarifying whether the sequence was concealed until interventions were assigned. | |
| Randomization -- Implementation | 10 | <u>Who generated the allocation sequence, who enrolled participants, and who assigned participants to their groups.</u> | |
| Blinding (masking) | 11 | <u>Whether or not participants, those administering the interventions, and those assessing the outcomes were blinded to group assignment.</u> When relevant, <u>how the success of blinding was evaluated.</u> | |
| Statistical methods | 12 | <u>Statistical methods used to compare groups for primary outcome(s); Methods for additional analyses,</u> such as subgroup analyses and adjusted analyses. | |
| RESULTS Participant flow | 13 | <u>Flow of participants through each stage</u> (a diagram is strongly recommended). Specifically, for each group report the numbers of participants randomly assigned, receiving intended treatment, completing the study protocol, and analyzed for the primary outcome. <u>Describe protocol deviations from study as planned, together with reasons.</u> | |
| Recruitment | 14 | <u>Dates defining the periods of recruitment and follow-up.</u> | |
| Baseline data | 15 | <u>Baseline demographic and clinical characteristics of each group.</u> | |
| Numbers analyzed | 16 | <u>Number of participants (denominator) in each group included in each analysis and whether the analysis was by "intention-to-treat".</u> State the results in absolute numbers when feasible (e.g., 10/20, not 50%). | |
| Outcomes and estimation | 17 | <u>For each primary and secondary outcome, a summary of results for each group, and the estimated effect size and its precision</u> (e.g., 95% confidence interval). | |
| Ancillary analyses | 18 | <u>Address multiplicity by reporting any other analyses performed,</u> including subgroup analyses and adjusted analyses, indicating those pre-specified and those exploratory. | |
| Adverse events | 19 | <u>All important adverse events or side effects in each intervention group.</u> | |

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| DISCUSSION Interpretation | 20 | <u>Interpretation of the results</u> , taking into account study hypotheses, sources of potential bias or imprecision and the dangers associated with multiplicity of analyses and outcomes. | |
| Generalizability | 21 | <u>Generalizability (external validity) of the trial findings.</u> | |
| Overall evidence | 22 | <u>General interpretation of the results in the context of current evidence.</u> | |