

# ctgov: A suite of Stata commands for reporting trial results to [ClinicalTrials.gov](http://ClinicalTrials.gov)

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# Outline

## Background

- FDAAA Law 110-85

- Website

- Example

- Problems

## Our Approach

## User Interface

## Design Considerations

- Overview of program structure

- IO

- Tables

- Plugins



## U.S. Public Law 110-85 (FDAAA)

The Food and Drug Administration Amendments Act of 2007 (FDAAA or US Public Law 110-85) was passed on September 27, 2007. The law requires mandatory **registration** and **results** reporting for certain clinical trials of drugs, biologics, and devices.



# U.S. Public Law 110-85 (FDAAA)

## (C) BASIC RESULTS

- (i) DEMOGRAPHIC AND BASELINE CHARACTERISTICS OF PATIENT SAMPLE. A table of the demographic and baseline data collected overall and for each arm of the clinical trial to describe the patients who participated in the clinical trial, including the number of patients who dropped out of the clinical trial and the number of patients excluded from the analysis, if any.
- (ii) PRIMARY AND SECONDARY OUTCOMES. The primary and secondary outcome measures as submitted under paragraph (2)(A)(ii)(I)(II), and a table of values for each of the primary and secondary outcome measures for each arm of the clinical trial, including the results of scientifically appropriate tests of the statistical significance of such outcome measures. **Note: includes SAEs and AEs occurring at a frequency greater than a pre-defined threshold (5% is default).**



## U.S. Public Law 110-85 (FDAAA)

### (C) BASIC RESULTS (cont.)

- (iii) POINT OF CONTACT. A point of contact for scientific information about the clinical trial results.
- (iv) CERTAIN AGREEMENTS. Whether there exists an agreement [...] that restricts in any manner the ability of the principal investigator [...] to publish in a scientific or academic journal information concerning the results of the trial.



# ClinicalTrials.gov

## ClinicalTrials.gov

A service of the U.S. National Institutes of Health

ClinicalTrials.gov is a registry and results database of publicly and privately supported clinical studies of human participants conducted around the world. Learn more [about clinical studies](#) and [about this site](#), including relevant [history](#), [policies](#), and [laws](#).

[Find Studies](#) [About Clinical Studies](#) [Submit Studies](#) [Resources](#) [About This Site](#)

ClinicalTrials.gov currently lists **172,006 studies** with locations in all 50 states and in **187 countries**.

[Text Size](#) ▾

### Search for Studies

Example: "Heart attack" AND "Los Angeles"

[Advanced Search](#) | [See Studies by Topic](#)  
[See Studies on a Map](#)

### Search Help

- [How to search](#)
- [How to find results of studies](#)
- [How to read a study record](#)

### Locations of Recruiting Studies



Total N = 33,675 studies  
Data as of July 29, 2014

- [See more trends, charts, and maps](#)

### Learn More

- [ClinicalTrials.gov Online Training](#)
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### For Patients & Families

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### For Study Record Managers

- [Why register?](#)
- [How to register study records](#)
- [FDAAA 801 Requirements](#)
- [Learn more...](#)

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## ClinicalTrials.gov (cont.)

- ▶ Trial registration (before trial opens)
  - ▶ Purpose
  - ▶ Eligibility
  - ▶ Contacts and Locations
  - ▶ More Information



## ClinicalTrials.gov (cont.)

- ▶ Trial registration (before trial opens)
  - ▶ Purpose
  - ▶ Eligibility
  - ▶ Contacts and Locations
  - ▶ More Information
- ▶ Results (within 1 year of trial completion)
  - ▶ Participant Flow
  - ▶ Baseline Characteristics
  - ▶ Outcome Measures
  - ▶ Reported Adverse Events
  - ▶ More Information





## Example: Parallel Study

### ▶ Purpose

The purpose of this study is to assess the safety and efficacy of Remuverol for treatment of Condition A.

Condition	Intervention	Phase
Condition A	Drug: Remuverol Drug: Placebo	Phase 3

Study Type: Interventional

Study Design: Treatment, Parallel Assignment, Double Blind (Subject, Investigator), Randomized, Safety/Efficacy Study

Official Title: A 24-Week Double-Blind Trial of Remuverol in Adults With Condition A



# Example: Parallel Study

## ▶ Participant Flow

**Recruitment Details** -- *Key information relevant to the recruitment process for the overall study, such as dates of the recruitment period and locations:*

Participants were recruited based on physician referral at 3 academic medical centers between February 2010 and January 2011. The first participant was enrolled in March 2010, and the last participant was enrolled in December 2010.

## Reporting Groups

	Description
<b>Remuverol</b>	Participants received Remuverol 15 mg tablet orally twice daily for 24 weeks.
<b>Placebo</b>	Participants received Remuverol placebo tablet orally twice daily for 24 weeks.



## Example: Parallel Study

### Overall Study

	<b>Remuverol</b>	<b>Placebo</b>
<b>STARTED</b>	101	99
<b>Per Protocol Population Week 12</b>	98	95
<b>Per Protocol Population Week 24</b>	76	81
<b>COMPLETED</b>	80	81
<b>Not Completed</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Adverse Event</b>	10	8
<b>Withdrawal by Subject</b>	5	4
<b>Protocol Violation</b>	2	2
<b>Lack of Efficacy</b>	1	1
<b>Physician Decision</b>	1	1
<b>Lost to Follow-up</b>	1	2
<b>Pregnancy</b>	1	0



# Example: Parallel Study

## ▶ Baseline Characteristics

### Reporting Groups

	Description
<b>Remuverol</b>	Participants received Remuverol 15 mg tablet orally twice daily for 24 weeks.
<b>Placebo</b>	Participants received Remuverol placebo tablet orally twice daily for 24 weeks.



# Example: Parallel Study

## Baseline Measures

	Remuverol	Placebo	Total
<b>Number of Participants</b>	101	99	<b>200</b>
<b>Age Continuous</b> <i>[units: years]</i> <i>Mean ± Standard Deviation</i>	$34.78 \pm 9.72$	$35.34 \pm 10.71$	<b><math>34.98 \pm 9.89</math></b>
<b>Gender, Male/Female</b> <i>[units: participants]</i>			
<b>Female</b>	60	63	<b>123</b>
<b>Male</b>	41	36	<b>77</b>
<b>Race/Ethnicity, Customized</b> <i>[units: participants]</i>			
<b>African</b>	5	4	<b>9</b>
<b>Caucasian</b>	90	90	<b>180</b>
<b>Hispanic</b>	5	4	<b>9</b>
<b>Native American</b>	1	1	<b>2</b>



## Example: Parallel Study

### Region of Enrollment

[units: participants]

<b>United States</b>	44	47	<b>91</b>
<b>Canada</b>	35	35	<b>70</b>
<b>Mexico</b>	22	17	<b>39</b>

### Study Specific Characteristic [Quebec Task Force Classification of Spinal Disorders] <sup>[1]</sup>

[units: participants]

<b>Class 0 (no pain)</b>	16	14	<b>30</b>
<b>Class 1 (pain without radiation)</b>	73	68	<b>141</b>
<b>Class 2 (pain with proximal extremity radiation)</b>	12	17	<b>29</b>

### Study Specific Characteristic [Body Mass Index]

[units: kg/m<sup>2</sup>]

Mean ± Standard Deviation

26.65 ± 4.50	27.41 ± 4.72	<b>26.91 ± 4.55</b>
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### Study Specific Characteristic [Short Pain Scale (SPS-11) Score] <sup>[2]</sup>

6.48 ± 1.34	6.57 ± 1.73	<b>6.52 ± 1.61</b>
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# Example: Parallel Study

## ▶ Outcome Measures

### 1. Primary Outcome Measure:

<b>Measure Title</b>	<b>Change From Baseline in Pain on the 11-point Short Pain Scale (SPS-11) at Week 24</b>
<b>Measure Description</b>	SPS-11 is a validated, self-reported instrument assessing average pain intensity over the past 24 hour period. Possible scores range from 0 (no pain) to 10 (worst possible pain). Change = (Week 24 Score - Baseline score)
<b>Time Frame</b>	Baseline and Week 24
<b>Safety Issue?</b>	No

**Population Description** -- *Explanation of how the number of participants for analysis was determined. Includes whether analysis was per protocol, intention to treat, or another method. Also provides relevant details such as imputation technique, as appropriate:*

Intent to treat population (all participants who received at least one dose of intervention).



## Example: Parallel Study

### Reporting Groups

	Description
<b>Remuverol</b>	Participants received Remuverol 15 mg tablet orally twice daily for 24 weeks.
<b>Placebo</b>	Participants received Remuverol placebo tablet orally twice daily for 24 weeks.

### Measured Values

	Remuverol	Placebo
<b>Number of Participants Analyzed</b>	101	99
<b>Change From Baseline in Pain on the 11-point Short Pain Scale (SPS-11) at Week 24</b>	-3.84 ±	-2.08 ±
<i>[units: units on a scale]</i>	0.61	0.51
Mean ± Standard Error		





## Example: Parallel Study

### Statistical Analysis 1 for Change From Baseline in Pain on the 11-point Short Pain Scale (SPS-11) at Week 24

**Groups** Remuverol, Placebo

**Method** t-test, 2 sided

**P-Value** 0.002

Additional details about the analysis, such as null hypothesis and power calculation:

It was calculated that 200 participants randomized in a 1:1 fashion between the 2 arms would have at least 85% power to detect a difference of 0.56 points in mean SPS-11 pain score between Remuverol and placebo from baseline to week 24. Sample size was determined using a 2-sided 2-sample t test ( $\alpha = 0.05$ ). Assumptions included a common standard deviation of 1.14 and a discontinuation rate of 7%.

Additional information, such as whether or not the p-value is adjusted for multiple comparisons and the a priori threshold for statistical significance:

[Not specified.]

Other relevant information, such as adjustments or degrees of freedom:

[Not specified.]



# Example: Parallel Study

## ▶ Reported Adverse Events

### Reporting Groups

	Description
<b>Remuverol</b>	Participants received Remuverol 15 mg tablet orally twice daily for 24 weeks.
<b>Placebo</b>	Participants received Remuverol placebo tablet orally twice daily for 24 weeks.

### Time Frame

### Additional Description

### Serious Adverse Events

	Remuverol	Placebo
<b>Total # participants affected/at risk</b>	<b>4/101 (3.96%)</b>	<b>0/99 (0%)</b>
<b>Blood and lymphatic system disorders</b>		
<b>Anemia Iron Deficiency</b> † A		
# participants affected/at risk	1/101 (0.99%)	0/99 (0%)
<b>Idiopathic Thrombocytopenic Purpura</b> † A		
# participants affected/at risk	1/101 (0.99%)	0/99 (0%)



## Example: Parallel Study

### ▶ More Information

#### **Certain Agreements:**

All Principal Investigators ARE employed by the organization sponsoring the study.

**Limitations and Caveats** -- *Limitations of the study, such as early termination leading to small numbers of subjects analyzed and technical problems with measurement leading to unreliable or uninterpretable data:*

[Not specified.]

#### **Results Point of Contact:**

Name/Official Title: PRS Training Lead

Organization: PRS Training

Phone: 555-555-5555

Email: register@clinicaltrials.gov



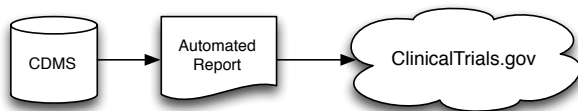
# Problems

- ▶ Unfunded mandate (12–16 hours required per protocol)
- ▶ Data completeness and quality
- ▶ Consistency with primary publication



## Problems (cont.)

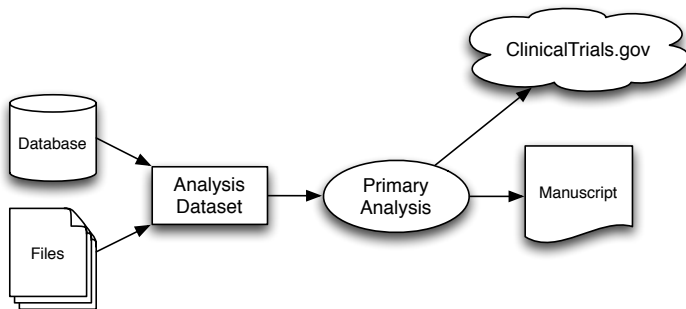
Some drugs companies and cooperative groups pursued the following strategy:



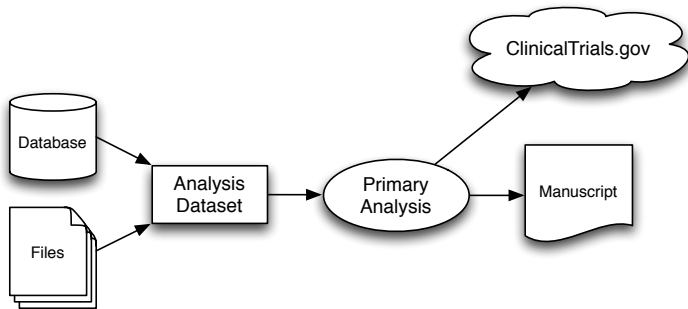
- ▶ Requires high quality and complete DB
- ▶ Requires programming expertise
- ▶ Outcomes difficult to automate



## Incorporate ClinicalTrials.gov reporting into data analysis



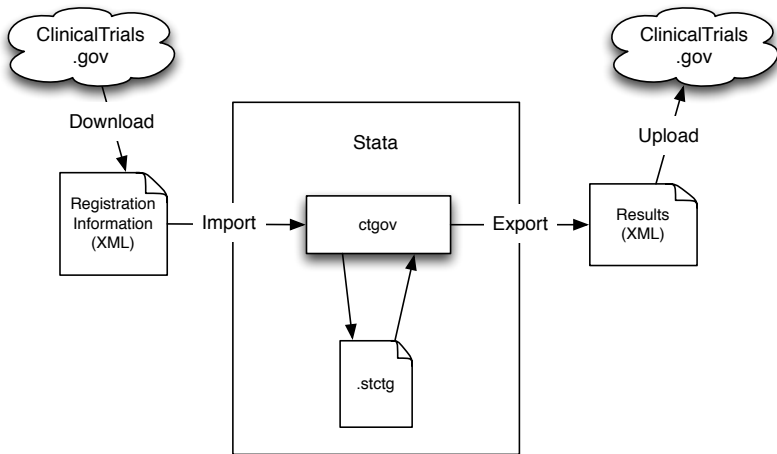
## Incorporate ClinicalTrials.gov reporting into data analysis



- ▶ Requires little additional effort
- ▶ Requires no programming skill
- ▶ Reporting tied directly to primary manuscript and reproducible



## Some more details





# help ctgov

## Title

ctgov -- Generate study results for upload to ClinicalTrials.gov

## Syntax

ctgov subcommand ... [, options ...]

subcommand	Description
-----	
Initialize and manage study	
init	Initialize study from registration information
describe	Describe study in memory
use	Load study from file
save	Save study to file
export	Export study results to XML for upload
Generate results from data	
flow	Progression of subjects through trial
baseline	Demographic and baseline data
outcome	Outcome measures
ae	Adverse events
Add study details	
contact	Point of contact for information about results
agreements	Agreements between trial sponsor and Principal Investigator
limitations	Significant limitations of the trial
-----	

## Description

The ctgov suite of commands facilitates reporting clinical trial results to ClinicalTrials.gov.



# help ctgov

subcommand	Description
-----	
Initialize and manage study	
init	Initialize study from registration information
describe	Describe study in memory
use	Load study from file
save	Save study to file
export	Export study results to XML for upload
Generate results from data	
flow	Progression of subjects through trial
baseline	Demographic and baseline data
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Add study details	
contact	Point of contact for information about results
agreements	Agreements between trial sponsor and Principal Investigator
limitations	Significant limitations of the trial
-----	



# help ctgov flow

## Title

ctgov flow -- Summarize progression of subjects through trial

## Syntax

All subjects who started period also finished

```
ctgov flow [if] [in] [weight] , by(groupvar[, description(groupdesc)]) [options]
```

Number who completed period is less than the number who started

```
ctgov flow reason_var [othreason_var] [if] [in] [weight] , by(groupvar[, description(groupdesc)]) [options]
```

where reason\_var is a numeric variable equal to 0 for those who completed the period and otherwise encoded using the standard ClinicalTrials.gov reasons for non-completion, and othreason\_var is a string variable indicating reasons for non-completion not among the standard categories.

options	Description
-----	
Main	
add	add new period to existing periods; default is to replace any existing periods
nostrict	relax requirement that all reporting groups progress through each successive period (e.g., as with a dose escalation study)
encoded	indicates reason_var includes reasons for non-completion not included in standard categories
milestones(varlist)	one or more indicator vars (i.e., 0/non-0) each representing a specific milestone
title(string)	period title
started(string)	additional information about the STARTED milestone
recruitment(string)	key information relevant to the recruitment process
preassignment(string)	significant events and approaches following enrollment but prior to group assignment

-----  
Only fweights are allowed.



## Example

```
. des
```

```
Contains data from tests/examples/parallel-design/flow.dta
```

```
obs:          17
vars:          5          18 Mar 2014 18:36
size:         85
```

```
-----
```

variable name	storage type	display format	value label	variable label
grp	byte	%9.0g	grp	
m1	byte	%9.0g		Per Protocol Population Week 12
m2	byte	%9.0g		Per Protocol Population Week 24
disp	byte	%21.0g	disp	
n	byte	%9.0g		

```
-----
```

```
Sorted by:  grp  m1  m2  disp
```



## Example (cont.)

. li

	grp	m1	m2	disp	n
1.	Remuverol	0	0	Physician Decision	1
2.	Remuverol	0	0	Lost to Follow-up	1
3.	Remuverol	0	0	Pregnancy	1
4.	Remuverol	1	0	Completed	4
5.	Remuverol	1	0	Adverse Event	10
6.	Remuverol	1	0	Withdrawal by Subject	5
7.	Remuverol	1	0	Protocol Violation	2
8.	Remuverol	1	0	Lack of Efficacy	1
9.	Remuverol	1	1	Completed	76
10.	Placebo	0	0	Lack of Efficacy	1
11.	Placebo	0	0	Physician Decision	1
12.	Placebo	0	0	Lost to Follow-up	2
13.	Placebo	0	0	Pregnancy	0
14.	Placebo	1	0	Adverse Event	8
15.	Placebo	1	0	Withdrawal by Subject	4
16.	Placebo	1	0	Protocol Violation	2
17.	Placebo	1	1	Completed	81



## Example (cont.)

```
. ctgov flow disp [fw=n], by(grp) milestones(m1 m2)
```

### Reporting Groups

	Description
Placebo	Participants received Remuverol placebo tablet orally twice daily for 24 weeks.
Remuverol	Participants received Remuverol 15 mg tablet orally twice daily for 24 weeks.

### Overall Study

	Placebo	Remuverol
STARTED	99	101
Per Protocol Population Week 12	95	98
Per Protocol Population Week 24	81	76
COMPLETED	81	80
Not Completed	18	21
Adverse Event	8	10
Withdrawal by Subject	4	5
Protocol Violation	2	2
Lack of Efficacy	1	1
Physician Decision	1	1
Lost to Follow-up	2	1
Pregnancy	0	1



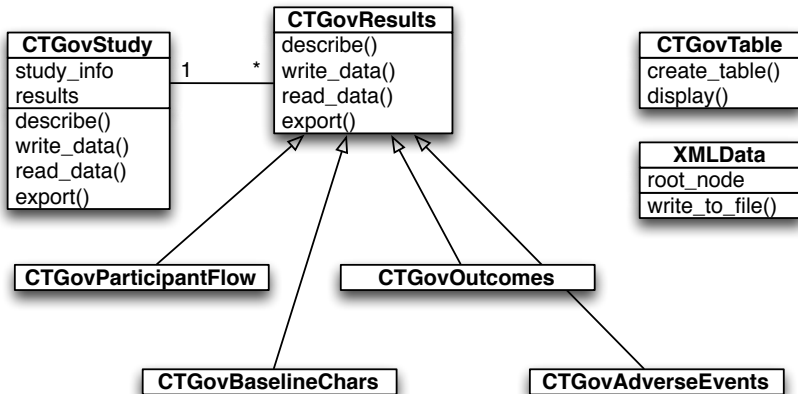
## Example (cont.)

### Overall Study

	<b>Remuverol</b>	<b>Placebo</b>
<b>STARTED</b>	101	99
<b>Per Protocol Population Week 12</b>	98	95
<b>Per Protocol Population Week 24</b>	76	81
<b>COMPLETED</b>	80	81
<b>Not Completed</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Adverse Event</b>	10	8
<b>Withdrawal by Subject</b>	5	4
<b>Protocol Violation</b>	2	2
<b>Lack of Efficacy</b>	1	1
<b>Physician Decision</b>	1	1
<b>Lost to Follow-up</b>	1	2
<b>Pregnancy</b>	1	0



## Overview of program structure





# IO

- ▶ XML import and export
- ▶ .stctg files for storing intermediate results



## Table requirements

Mimic tables in Stata viewer as displayed on [ClinicalTrials.gov](https://ClinicalTrials.gov)



# Table requirements

## ► Outcome Measures

### 1. Primary Outcome Measure:

<b>Measure Title</b>	<b>Change From Baseline in Pain on the 11-point Short Pain Scale (SPS-11) at Week 24</b>
<b>Measure Description</b>	SPS-11 is a validated, self-reported instrument assessing average pain intensity over the past 24 hour period. Possible scores range from 0 (no pain) to 10 (worst possible pain). Change = (Week 24 Score - Baseline score)
<b>Time Frame</b>	Baseline and Week 24
<b>Safety Issue?</b>	No

**Population Description** -- *Explanation of how the number of participants for analysis was determined. Includes whether analysis was per protocol, intention to treat, or another method. Also provides relevant details such as imputation technique, as appropriate:*

Intent to treat population (all participants who received at least one dose of intervention).



## Table requirements

### Region of Enrollment

[units: participants]

<b>United States</b>	44	47	<b>91</b>
<b>Canada</b>	35	35	<b>70</b>
<b>Mexico</b>	22	17	<b>39</b>

### Study Specific Characteristic [Quebec Task Force Classification of Spinal Disorders] <sup>[1]</sup>

[units: participants]

<b>Class 0 (no pain)</b>	16	14	<b>30</b>
<b>Class 1 (pain without radiation)</b>	73	68	<b>141</b>
<b>Class 2 (pain with proximal extremity radiation)</b>	12	17	<b>29</b>

### Study Specific Characteristic [Body Mass Index]

[units: kg/m<sup>2</sup>]

Mean ± Standard Deviation

26.65 ± 4.50	27.41 ± 4.72	<b>26.91 ± 4.55</b>
--------------	--------------	---------------------

### Study Specific Characteristic [Short Pain Scale (SPS-11) Score] <sup>[2]</sup>

6.48 ± 1.34	6.57 ± 1.73	<b>6.52 ± 1.61</b>
-------------	-------------	--------------------



## Table requirements

- ▶ Flexible row header structure, with dynamic indent
- ▶ Footnotes for column and table headers and individual cells
- ▶ Automatic wrapping and column resizing
- ▶ Control over horizontal and vertical justification

CTGovTable class:

- ▶ Uses `_tab`
- ▶ Easy to use
- ▶ Targeted to `ClinicalTrials.gov`



## Table examples

### Reporting Groups

	Description
Hypertena, Then Placebo	Participants first received Hypertena 20 mg tablet each morning in a fasting state for 2 weeks. After a washout period of 2 weeks, they then received Placebo tablet (matching Hypertena 20 mg) in a fasting state each morning for 2 weeks.
Placebo, Then Hypertena	Participants first received Placebo tablet (matching Hypertena 20 mg) in a fasting state each morning for 2 weeks. After a washout period of 2 weeks, they then received Hypertena 20 mg tablet in a fasting state each morning for 2 weeks.

### Serious Adverse Events

	Hypertena	Placebo
Total # of participants affected/at risk	0/127 (0%)	1/127 (0.79%)
Cardiac disorders		
Myocardial Infarction [1,2]		
# participants affected/at risk	0/127 (0%)	1/127 (0.79%)

[1] Indicates events were collected by systematic assessment.

[2] Term from vocabulary, MedDRA 11.1



# Outcomes

## Reporting Groups

	Description
<b>Remuverol</b>	Participants received Remuverol 15 mg tablet orally twice daily for 24 weeks.
<b>Placebo</b>	Participants received Remuverol placebo tablet orally twice daily for 24 weeks.

## Measured Values

	Remuverol	Placebo
<b>Number of Participants Analyzed</b>	101	99
<b>Change From Baseline in Pain on the 11-point Short Pain Scale (SPS-11) at Week 24</b>	-3.84 ±	-2.08 ±
<i>[units: units on a scale]</i>	0.61	0.51
Mean ± Standard Error		



## Outcomes

### Statistical Analysis 1 for Change From Baseline in Pain on the 11-point Short Pain Scale (SPS-11) at Week 24

**Groups** Remuverol, Placebo

**Method** t-test, 2 sided

**P-Value** 0.002

Additional details about the analysis, such as null hypothesis and power calculation:

It was calculated that 200 participants randomized in a 1:1 fashion between the 2 arms would have at least 85% power to detect a difference of 0.56 points in mean SPS-11 pain score between Remuverol and placebo from baseline to week 24. Sample size was determined using a 2-sided 2-sample t test ( $\alpha = 0.05$ ). Assumptions included a common standard deviation of 1.14 and a discontinuation rate of 7%.

Additional information, such as whether or not the p-value is adjusted for multiple comparisons and the a priori threshold for statistical significance:

[Not specified.]

Other relevant information, such as adjustments or degrees of freedom:

[Not specified.]





## Handling outcomes via plugins

- ▶ Need to handle arbitrary analysis commands
- ▶ Need to have fully-functioning system from the start
- ▶ Possible to enter outcome results manually
- ▶ Plugins for specific command(s) facilitate reporting

