

APPENDIX 5

Characteristics of respondents' vs. non-respondents' trials

Characteristic	Frequency (%)		
	Respondents N=708 ¹	Non-Respondents N=2455	Total N=3163
Country of corresponding author^{2,*}			
Canada	45 (6.4)	100 (4.1)	145 (4.6)
USA	269 (38.0)	974 (39.7)	1243 (39.3)
UK	122 (17.2)	363 (14.8)	485 (15.3)
Non-UK Europe	180 (25.4)	792 (32.3)	972 (30.7)
Australia or New Zealand	91 (12.8)	211 (8.6)	302 (9.5)
South Africa	6 (0.8)	25 (1.0)	31 (1.0)
Other	8 (1.1)	24 (1.0)	32 (1.0)
Age of trial participants³			
Children (<18 years) only	154 (21.8)	512 (20.9)	666 (21.1)
Older adults (>65 years) only	68 (9.6)	191 (7.8)	259 (8.9)
Neither of the above	486 (68.6)	1755 (71.5)	2241 (70.9)
Year of publication⁴			
2014	90 (12.7)	386 (15.7)	476 (15.0)
2015	120 (16.9)	451 (18.4)	571 (18.1)
2016	119 (16.8)	454 (18.5)	573 (18.1)
2017	155 (21.9)	473 (19.3)	628 (19.9)
2018	169 (23.9)	494 (20.1)	663 (21.0)
2019	55 (7.8)	197 (8.0)	252 (8.0)
Clinical/Disease Area^{2,*}			
Cardiovascular system & cardiology	21 (2.9)	98 (4.0)	119 (3.8)
Endocrinology & metabolism	17 (2.4)	75 (3.1)	92 (2.9)
General & internal medicine	217 (30.6)	597 (24.3)	814 (25.7)
Health care sciences & services	90 (12.7)	202 (8.2)	292 (9.2)
Immunology & infectious diseases	13 (1.8)	122 (5.0)	135 (4.3)
Oncology	33 (4.7)	103 (4.2)	136 (4.3)
Pediatrics	31 (4.4)	119 (4.8)	150 (4.7)
Psychiatry & psychology	76 (10.7)	321 (13.1)	397 (12.6)
Neurosciences & neurology	21 (2.9)	80 (3.2)	101 (3.2)
Public, environmental & occupational health	97 (13.7)	319 (13.0)	416 (13.2)
Science & technology – other topics	24 (3.3)	97 (4.0)	121 (3.8)
Nutrition & dietetics	22 (3.1)	95 (3.9)	117 (3.7)
Other	239 (33.8)	877 (35.7)	1116 (35.3)
Unit of randomization			
Cluster	414 (58.5)	1330 (54.2)	1744 (55.1)
Individual	294 (41.5)	1125 (45.8)	1419 (44.9)
Self-declared pragmatic trial			
Yes	212 (29.9)	556 (22.6)	768 (24.3)
No	496 (70.1)	1899 (77.4)	2395 (75.7)
Journal impact factor			
Median (Q1, Q3)	4.53 (2.82, 11.05)	4.39 (2.78, 9.54)	4.44 (2.78, 9.64)
ClinicalTrials.gov Characteristics⁶	Respondents N=324	Non-Respondents N=1145	Total N=1469

Primary purpose			
Treatment	122 (37.7)	437 (38.2)	559 (38.1)
Prevention	81 (25.0)	303 (26.5)	384 (26.1)
Diagnostic	11 (3.4)	40 (3.5)	51 (3.5)
Supportive care	26 (8.0)	101 (8.8)	127 (8.6)
Screening	14 (4.3)	29 (2.5)	43 (2.9)
Health services research	64 (19.8)	200 (17.5)	264 (18.0)
Other	6 (1.9)	35 (3.1)	41 (27.9)
	Respondents N=341	Non-Respondents N=1181	Total N=1522
Types of experimental interventions*			
Drug	40 (11.7)	177 (15.0)	217 (14.3)
Device	27 (7.9)	91 (7.7)	118 (7.8)
Biological/vaccine	7 (2.1)	27 (2.3)	34 (2.2)
Procedure/surgery	26 (7.6)	70 (5.9)	96 (6.3)
Radiation	2 (0.6)	8 (0.7)	10 (0.7)
Genetic	2 (0.6)	4 (0.3)	6 (0.4)
Dietary Supplement	9 (2.6)	31 (2.6)	40 (2.6)
Educational or behavioural	175 (51.3)	550 (46.6)	725 (47.6)
Other	122 (35.8)	390 (33.0)	512 (33.6)
	Respondents N=201⁶	Non-Respondents N=651⁶	Total N=852
PPI Reporting			
Yes	25 (12.4)	51 (7.8)	76 (8.9)
No	174 (86.6)	597 (91.4)	771 (90.5)
Unclear	2 (1.0)	5 (0.8)	7 (0.8)

¹2 respondents entered incorrect trial identifiers in the survey and could not be linked to a trial publication

²Web of Science

³Identified by filter (Pediatric filter: sensitivity 96.7% and specificity 97.4%; Older adult filter: sensitivity of 94.0% and specificity 97.7%)

⁴Downloaded from MEDLINE

⁵Denominators differ due to missing data in ClinicalTrials.gov

⁶Data on PPI reporting available from a previous, independent review of 852 trials [identified by the search filter](#) within the broader study. [Among these 852 trials, there were 201 respondents and 651 non-respondents to the present survey.](#)

*Multiple selections possible

