**Online Supplement C. SIGN 50 Quality Assessment of RCT Studies10**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Criteria presented as %(n)** | **Poor** | **Adequate** | **Well** | **NA** |
| The study addresses appropriate and clearly focused question. | - | 100.0% (12) | - | - |
| The assignment of subjects to treatment groups is randomized. | 66.7% (8) | 8.3% (1) | 25.0% (3) | - |
| An adequate concealment method is used. | 83.3% (10) | 16.7% (2) | - | - |
| Subjects and investigators are kept ‘blind’ about treatment allocation. | 50.0% (6) | 33.3% (4) | 16.7% (2) |  |
| What percentage of subjects in each treatment arm dropped out before the study was completed? | 33.3% (4) | 16.7% (2) | 50.0% (6) | - |
| Baseline similarities: The only difference between groups is the treatment under investigation. | 8.3% (1) | 16.7% (2) | 75.0% (9) | - |
| Group differences: The only difference between groups is the treatment under investigation. | - | 66.7% (8) | 33.3% (4) | - |
| All relevant outcomes are measured in a standard, valid and reliable way. | - | 25.0% (3) | 75.0% (9) | - |
| All subjects are analyzed in the groups to which they were randomly allocated (intention-to-treat analysis). | 66.7% (8) | - | 33.3% (4) | - |
| Where the study is carried out at more than one site, results are comparable for all sites. | 8.3% (1) | - | - | 91.7% (11) |