# Appendix 3. Descriptive statistics.

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| **Research question 1** | | **Split 1: Opt-out**  **(N=1,443)** | **Split 2: Neither**  **(N=1,543)** |  |
|  | | Mean (SD) | Mean (SD) | P-value |
| Age | | 61.41 (11.26) | 61.75 (11.00) | 0.425 |
|  | | N (%) | N (%) |  |
| Gender | Female | 698 (51.0) | 736 (50.2) | 0.677 |
| Male | 671 (49.0) | 730 (49.8) |  |
| Education1 | Low | 254 (18.1) | 309 (20.6) | 0.213 |
| Average | 443 (31.6) | 466 (31.1) |  |
| High | 706 (50.3) | 722 (48.2) |  |
| Work status | Paid work | 992 (70.0) | 1090 (71.8) | 0.297 |
| No paid work | 425 (30.0) | 429 (28.2) |  |
| Income2 | Low | 370 (33.7) | 436 (36.3) | 0.360 |
| Average | 326 (29.7) | 355 (29.5) |  |
| High | 402 (36.6) | 411 (34.2) |  |
| Health status | Healthy | 325 (22.5) | 384 (24.9) | 0.129 |
| Chronically ill | 1118 (77.5) | 1159 (75.1) |  |
| Health literacy3 | Low | 29 (2.0) | 36 (2.4) | 0.535 |
| Adequate | 1395 (98.0) | 1481 (97.6) |  |
|  |  | Median (IQR) | Median (IQR) | P-value |
| Response time | In minutes | 21 (16-28) | 22 (17-30) | 0.003 |
| *Survey perception* |  | N (%) | N (%) | P-value |
| Perceived difficulty | Very easy | 44 (3.1) | 81 (5.3) | 0.000 |
| Easy | 257 (17.9) | 346 (22.6) |  |
| Neutral | 600 (41.9) | 643 (42.0) |  |
| Hard | 449 (31.3) | 396 (25.9) |  |
| Very hard | 83 (5.8) | 64 (4.2) |  |
| Certainty in answers | Very certain | 125 (8.7) | 216 (14.1) | 0.000 |
| Certain | 503 (35.0) | 616 (40.3) |  |
| Neutral | 547 (38.1) | 499 (32.6) |  |
| Uncertain | 224 (15.6) | 178 (11.6) |  |
| Very uncertain | 37 (2.6) | 20 (1.3) |  |
| Quantity of choice sets | Too low | 209 (14.6) | 243 (15.9) | 0.031 |
| Exactly right | 511 (35.6) | 598 (39.1) |  |
| Too high | 716 (49.9) | 689 (45.0) |  |

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| **Research question 2** | | **Split 3a and 3b**  **(N=192)** |
|  | | Mean (SD) |
| Age | In years | 63.22 (10.65) |
|  | | N (%) |
| Gender | Female | 82 (45.6) |
| Male | 98 (54.4) |
| Education1 | Low | 54 (29.3) |
| Average | 51 (27.7) |
| High | 79 (42.9) |
| Work status | Paid work | 35 (18.5) |
| No paid work | 154 (81.5) |
| Income2 | Low | 62 (40.5) |
| Average | 45 (29.4) |
| High | 46 (30.1) |
| Health status | Healthy | 26 (13.5) |
| Chronically ill | 166 (86.5) |
| Health literacy3 | Low | 11 (5.7) |
| Adequate | 181 (94.3) |
|  |  | Median (IQR) |
| Response time | In minutes | 28 (21-37) |
| *Survey perception* |  | N (%) |
| Perceived difficulty | Very easy | 5 (2.6) |
| Easy | 40 (21.1) |
| Neutral | 68 (35.8) |
| Hard | 60 (31.6) |
| Very hard | 17 (8.9) |
| Certainty in answers | Very certain | 14 (7.3) |
| Certain | 77 (40.3) |
| Neutral | 62 (32.5) |
| Uncertain | 33 (17.3) |
| Very uncertain | 5 (2.6) |
| Quantity of choice sets | Too low | 24 (12.8) |
| Exactly right | 63 (33.5) |
| Too high | 101 (53.7) |

Abbreviations: *SD* standard deviation; *IQR* interquartile range.

Notes: 1Educational level was categorized into three groups: low (primary education and lower secondary education), average (higher secondary education and intermediate vocational education), and high (tertiary education). 2Monthly nett income was categorized into three groups: low (less than €2000), average (€2000-€3000), high (€3000 or more). 3Subjective health literacy was measured based on the validated Dutch questions of the Set of Brief Screening Questions (SBSQ-D) of Chew [1].

**Reference**

[1] Fransen MP, Van Schaik TM, Twickler TB, Essink-Bot ML. Applicability of internationally available health literacy measures in the Netherlands. Journal of health communication. 2011;16 Suppl 3:134-49.