

Appendix Table A1: For all outcome measures the results of Little's MCAR test

| Outcome measure | Chi-Square test | p-value |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|---------|
| FFI Pain | $\chi^2(30) = 16.330$ | 0.980 |
| FFI Disability | $\chi^2(27) = 21.993$ | 0.738 |
| FFI Activity | $\chi^2(27) = 24.285$ | 0.614 |
| AOFAS | $\chi^2(28) = 17.190$ | 0.945 |
| WHOQOL | | |
| Overall QoL and General Health | $\chi^2(24) = 19.058$ | 0.749 |
| WHOQOL Physical Health | $\chi^2(27) = 25.478$ | 0.548 |
| WHOQOL Psychological Health | $\chi^2(27) = 32.715$ | 0.207 |
| WHOQOL Social Relationships | $\chi^2(42) = 47.296$ | 0.265 |
| WHOQOL Environment | $\chi^2(27) = 27.631$ | 0.430 |

Abbreviations: QoL =y of Life, FFI = Foot Function Index, AOFAS = American Orthopedic Function and Activity Score; WHOQOL = World Health Organization Quality of Life instrument

Appendix Table A2: For all outcome measures the results of the F-test on the three-way interaction between treatment, dosage and time, both for models with- and without adjustment for quadratic and cubic time effects.

| Outcome measure | Time modeled linearly | | Time modeled linearly, quadratically and cubically | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|--|----------------|
| | <i>F-test</i> | <i>p-value</i> | <i>F-test</i> | <i>p-value</i> |
| FFI Pain†∇ | F(1,96.636) = 3.157 | 0.079 | F(1,178.136) = 0.237 | 0.627 |
| FFI Disability† | F(1,117.726) = 0.434 | 0.511 | F(1,210.527) = 0.602 | 0.439 |
| FFI Activity† | F(1,122.073) = 0.001 | 0.977 | F(1,203.000) = 0.235 | 0.628 |
| AOFAS† | F(1,126.834) = 1.919 | 0.168 | F(1,212.003) = 1.249 | 0.265 |
| <i>WHOQOL</i> | | | | |
| Overall QOL and General Health | F(1,116.196) = 2.687 | 0.104 | F(1,213.489) = 0.475 | 0.491 |
| Physical Health† | F(1,122.828) = 3.645 | 0.059 | F(1,175.282) = 1.549 | 0.215 |
| Psychological Health | F(1,113.226) = 0.747 | 0.389 | F(1,167.989) = 1.320 | 0.252 |
| Social Relationships | F(1,104.084) = 3.447 | 0.066 | F(1,187.336) = 0.085 | 0.771 |
| Environment | F(1,126.952) = 0.631 | 0.429 | F(1,192.948) = 2.174 | 0.142 |

* Statistically significant based on the criteria reported in our statistical analysis paragraph

† These models showed significant quadratic- and cubic time effects

∇ Primary outcome measure