

Appendix: The WTP questionnaire as developed for the purpose of the study.

Questionnaire: Willingness to contribute financially to rehabilitation in a spa-resort.

Some patients with ankylosing spondylitis consider the effects of an annual spa-treatment to be beneficial for symptoms typical for the disease. Some health insurance companies reimburse part of a spa-resort treatment. We are interested to know how important a spa-treatment is for you and which amount of money you are prepared to pay for it. In case the insurance company does not pay the costs (completely).

First, we would like you to indicate the amount of pain and stiffness you experience today.

Please check the box appropriate for you. The number in front of the box is further called the “level” of pain and stiffness.

Question 1 Indicate the level of pain and stiffness you experience at present. Check only one box.

Level 0	(Almost) no pain/stiffness	<input type="checkbox"/>
Level 1	Mild	<input type="checkbox"/>
Level 2	Moderate	<input type="checkbox"/>
Level 3	Severe	<input type="checkbox"/>
Level 4	Very severe	<input type="checkbox"/>

Question 2. Imagine that a yearly admission of 3♣ weeks to a rehabilitation hospital would result for **you** in improvement of pain and stiffness compared with **before** the admission. As a result of such improvement, your pain and stiffness would be now one level lower, than you experience at this moment (Question 1). You have to pay a personal contribution. Which amount (in Euros) would you be prepared to contribute to reach this improvement through a rehabilitation treatment?

	Yes, I will pay this contribution	I doubt I would pay this contribution	No, I will not pay this contribution
€112	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
€225	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
€450	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
€900	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
€1,800	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Continue the following question on the next page

Question 3. Imagine that a yearly spa-treatment of 3 weeks would result for **you** in improvement of pain and stiffness compared with **before** the spa-treatment. As a result of such improvement, your pain and stiffness would be now one level lower, than you experience at this moment (Question 1). You have to pay a personal contribution. Which amount (in Euros) would you be prepared to contribute to reach this improvement through the spa-treatment.

	Yes, I will pay this contribution	I doubt I would pay this contribution	No, I will not pay this contribution
€112	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
€225	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
€450	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
€900	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
€1,800	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Question 4. Carefull: you should only complete this question, if your level of pain is level two or higher.

Imagine that a yearly spa-treatment of 3 weeks would result for **you** in improvement of pain and stiffness compared with **before** the spa-treatment. As a result of such improvement, your pain and stiffness would be two levels lower, than you experience at this moment (Question 1). You have to pay a personal contribution. Which amount (in Euros) would you be prepared to contribute to reach this improvement through the spa-treatment?

	Yes, I will pay this contribution	I doubt I would pay this contribution	No, I will not pay this contribution
€112	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
€225	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
€450	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
€900	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
€1,800	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Have you checked one box after each possible level of co-payment in question 2 till 4.