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2 **Online appendix I:**

3 To explore the data from a different angle, and to confirm results of the primary statistical
4 approach taken in this study, logistic regression models were used to compute p-values for the
5 regression coefficients for primary and secondary endpoints. Log-transformed measures of
6 strength (or change in strength) were used as “predictors” and progression/non-progression as
7 the” outcome”, adjusting for age, BMI, and WOMAC pain levels as covariates. Further, the
8 percentage of progressor and non-progressor knees were determined in the greater vs. lower
9 tertile of muscle strength or longitudinal strength change.

10 In female knees from the highest tertile of year 2 extensor muscle strength (normalized to
11 individual body weight), 23% were radiographic progressors and 77% non-progressors. In knees
12 from the lowest tertile, 29% were radiographic progressors and 71% non-progressors. Logistic
13 regression found no significant relationship between (normalized) extensor muscle strength as a
14 predictor and radiographic progression as an outcome ($p=0.84$). In female KLG 0/1 knees from
15 the highest tertile of year 2 extensor muscle strength (normalized to body weight), 30% were
16 radiographic progressors, and 70% were non-progressors. In KLG 0/1 knees from the lowest
17 tertile, 31% were progressors, and 69% were non-progressors. Again, logistic regression did not
18 suggest a significant relationship ($p=0.33$).

19 In female knees from the tertile with the greatest longitudinal reduction in extensor
20 muscle strength (BL→Y2), 28% were radiographic progressors, and 72% non-progressors. In
21 knees from the tertile with the least longitudinal reduction (or with gains) in extensor muscle
22 strength, 26% were progressors and 74% non-progressors. Logistic regression found no
23 significant relationship between longitudinal change in extensor muscle strength and progression
24 ($p=0.76$).

25 In female KLG 0/1 knees from the tertile with the greatest longitudinal reduction in
26 extensor muscle strength (BL→Y2), 33% were progressors and 67% were non-progressors. In

1 KLG 0/1 knees from the tertile with the least longitudinal reduction in extensor muscle strength,
2 30% were progressors, and 70% non-progressors, and logistic regression again did not suggest a
3 significant relationship ($p=0.29$).

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