**Supplementary table S2** Differences in pooled means costs and effects, incremental cost-effectiveness ratios and the distribution of incremental cost-effectiveness pairs around the quadrants of the cost-effectiveness plane

Analysis	Sample size		Δ Cost* (€)	Δ Effect* (days)	ICER	<b>Distribution CE-plane</b>			
	IC	UC	mean (95% CI)	mean (95% CI)	€/day	$NE^1$	$SE^2$	$SW^3$	$NW^4$
QALYs									
Intention to treat	227	206	-647 (-2116 to 735)	-0.001 (-0.023 to 0.020)	501187	4%	42%	35%	19%
Per-protocol analysis	205	188	-1148 (-2611 to 162)	0.003 (-0.019 to 0.024)	-432881	1%	59%	34%	6%
Complete-case analysis	132	136	-1607 (-3421 to 52)	0.009 (-0.013 to 0.033)	-202816	1%	72%	24%	3%
Friction cost approach	227	206	-825 (-2209 to 470)	-0.001 (-0.023 to 0.020	639131	2%	44%	42%	12%
Healthcare perspective	227	206	-61 (-361 to 218)	-0.001 (-0.023 to 0.020	46942	13%	33%	28%	26%
SF-36 PHYSICAL CON	<b>IPONE</b>	NT SCC	RE						
Intention to treat	227	206	-647 (-2116 to 735)	-0.7 (-2.6 to 1.1)	870	6%	19%	58%	17%
Per-protocol analysis	205	188	-1148 (-2611 to 162)	-0.9 (-2.8 to 1.1)	1350	2%	21%	71%	6%
Complete-case analysis	153	149	-1689 (-3316 to -231)	-1.2 (-3.3 to 0.8)	1389	0%	12%	86%	2%
Friction cost approach	227	206	-825 (-2209 to 470)	-0.7 (-2.6 to 1.1)	1109	4%	21%	64%	11%
Healthcare perspective	227	206	-61 (-361 to 218)	-0.7 (-2.6 to 1.1)	81	8%	17%	44%	31%
SF-36 MENTAL COMI	PONEN	T SCAL	E						
Intention to treat	227	206	-647 (-2116 to 735)	-0.4 (-2.5 to 1.7)	1573	10%	33%	44%	13%
Per-protocol analysis	205	188	-1148 (-2611 to 162)	-0.5 (-2.7 to 1.7)	2198	2%	32%	61%	5%
Complete-case analysis	153	149	-1689 (-3316 to -231)	-0.1 (-2.6 to 1.9)	12598	1%	49%	49%	1%
Friction cost approach	227	206	-825 (-2209 to 470)	-0.4 (-2.5 to 1.7)	2006	6%	37%	49%	8%
Healthcare perspective	227	206	-61 (-361 to 218)	-0.4 (-2.5 to 1.7)	147	17%	26%	35%	22%
RECOVERY INDEX									
Intention to treat	227	206	-647 (-2116 to 735)	-0.6 (-2.0 to 0.9)	1127	5%	22%	55%	18%
Per-protocol analysis	205	188	-1148 (-2611 to 162)	-0.7 (-2.1 to 0.8)	1786	1%	23%	70%	6%
Complete-case analysis	153	149	-1689 (-3316 to -231)	-0.7 (-2.2 to 0.7)	2562	1%	20%	78%	1%
Friction cost approach	227	206	-825 (-2209 to 470)	-0.6 (-2.0 to 0.9)	1437	3%	24%	62%	12%
Healthcare perspective	227	206	-61 (-361 to 218)	-0.6 (-2.0 to 0.9)	106	8%	19%	42%	31%

IC, intervention care; UC, usual care; ICER, Incremental Cost-effectiveness Ratio; CE plane, cost-effectiveness plane.

<sup>\*</sup> uncertainty estimated using bootstrapping and corrected for clustering by hospital and type of surgery

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Refers to the northeast quadrant of the CE-plane, indicating that the intervention care programme is more effective and more costly than usual care.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Refers to the southeast quadrant of the CE-plane, indicating that the intervention care programme is more effective and less costly than usual care.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Refers to the southwest quadrant of the CE-plane, indicating that the intervention care programme is less effective and less costly than usual care.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Refers to the northwest quadrant of the CE-plane, indicating that the intervention care programme is less effective and more costly than usual care.