

# SPIRIT Checklist for *Trials*

Complete this checklist by entering the page and line numbers where each of the items listed below can be found in your manuscript.

Your manuscript may not currently address all the items on the checklist. Please modify your text to include the missing information. If you are certain that an item does not apply, please state "n/a" and provide a short explanation. **Leaving an item blank or stating "n/a" without an explanation will lead to your manuscript being returned before review.**

Upload your completed checklist as an additional file when you submit to *Trials*. You must reference this additional file in the main text of your protocol submission. The completed SPIRIT figure must be included within the main body of the protocol text and can be downloaded here: <http://www.spirit-statement.org/schedule-of-enrolment-interventions-and-assessments/>

In your methods section, please state that you used the SPIRIT reporting guidelines, and cite them as:

Chan A-W, Tetzlaff JM, Gøtzsche PC, Altman DG, Mann H, Berlin J, Dickersin K, Hróbjartsson A, Schulz KF, Parulekar WR, Krleža-Jerić K, Laupacis A, Moher D. SPIRIT 2013 Explanation and Elaboration: Guidance for protocols of clinical trials. *BMJ*. 2013;346:e7586

	Reporting Item		Page and Line Number	Reason if not applicable
<b>Administrative information</b>				
Title	<a href="#">#1</a>	Descriptive title identifying the study design, population, interventions, and, if applicable, trial acronym	Page 1, line 6	
Trial registration	<a href="#">#2a</a>	Trial identifier and registry name. If not yet registered, name of intended registry	Page 8, line 206	
Trial registration: data set	<a href="#">#2b</a>	All items from the World Health Organization Trial Registration Data Set	Page 29, line 723	
Protocol version	<a href="#">#3</a>	Date and version identifier	Page 7, line 169	

Funding	<a href="#">#4</a>	Sources and types of financial, material, and other support	Page 27, line 667	
Roles and responsibilities: contributorship	<a href="#">#5a</a>	Names, affiliations, and roles of protocol contributors	Page 28, line 687	
Roles and responsibilities: sponsor contact information	<a href="#">#5b</a>	Name and contact information for the trial sponsor	Page 29, line 725	
Roles and responsibilities: sponsor and funder	<a href="#">#5c</a>	Role of study sponsor and funders, if any, in study design; collection, management, analysis, and interpretation of data; writing of the report; and the decision to submit the report for publication, including whether they will have ultimate authority over any of these activities	Page 27, line 667	
Roles and responsibilities: committees	<a href="#">#5d</a>	Composition, roles, and responsibilities of the coordinating centre, steering committee, endpoint adjudication committee, data management team, and other individuals or groups overseeing the trial, if applicable (see Item 21a for data monitoring committee)	Page 21, line 482; Page 27, line 667	
<b>Introduction</b>				
Background and rationale	<a href="#">#6a</a>	Description of research question and justification for undertaking the trial, including summary of relevant studies (published and unpublished) examining benefits and harms for each intervention	Page 3, line 78	

Background and rationale: choice of comparators	<a href="#">#6b</a>	Explanation for choice of comparators	Page 3, line 89	
Objectives	<a href="#">#7</a>	Specific objectives or hypotheses	Page 15, line 370	
Trial design	<a href="#">#8</a>	Description of trial design including type of trial (eg, parallel group, crossover, factorial, single group), allocation ratio, and framework (eg, superiority, equivalence, non-inferiority, exploratory)	Page 7, line 183	
<b>Methods: Participants, interventions, and outcomes</b>				
Study setting	<a href="#">#9</a>	Description of study settings (eg, community clinic, academic hospital) and list of countries where data will be collected. Reference to where list of study sites can be obtained	Page 7, line 183	
Eligibility criteria	<a href="#">#10</a>	Inclusion and exclusion criteria for participants. If applicable, eligibility criteria for study centres and individuals who will perform the interventions (eg, surgeons, psychotherapists)	Page 9 line 225	
Interventions: description	<a href="#">#11a</a>	Interventions for each group with sufficient detail to allow replication, including how and when they will be administered	Page 12, line 287	
Interventions: modifications	<a href="#">#11b</a>	Criteria for discontinuing or modifying allocated interventions for a given trial participant (eg, drug dose change in response to harms, participant request, or improving / worsening disease)	Page 14, line 330	

Interventions: adherence	<a href="#">#11c</a>	Strategies to improve adherence to intervention protocols, and any procedures for monitoring adherence (eg, drug tablet return; laboratory tests). Also relevant for non-pharmacological RCTs.	Page 20, line 463	
Interventions: concomitant care	<a href="#">#11d</a>	Relevant concomitant care and interventions that are permitted or prohibited during the trial	Page 10, line 225	
Outcomes	<a href="#">#12</a>	Primary, secondary, and other outcomes, including the specific measurement variable (eg, systolic blood pressure), analysis metric (eg, change from baseline, final value, time to event), method of aggregation (eg, median, proportion), and time point for each outcome. Explanation of the clinical relevance of chosen efficacy and harm outcomes is strongly recommended	Page 16, line 370	
Participant timeline	<a href="#">#13</a>	Time schedule of enrolment, interventions (including any run-ins and washouts), assessments, and visits for participants. A schematic diagram is highly recommended (see Figure)	Page 14, line 345	
Sample size	<a href="#">#14</a>	Estimated number of participants needed to achieve study objectives and how it was determined, including clinical and statistical assumptions supporting any sample size calculations	Page 19, line 442	
Recruitment	<a href="#">#15</a>	Strategies for achieving adequate participant enrolment to reach target sample size	Page 9, line 213	

**Methods: Assignment of interventions (for controlled trials)**

Allocation: sequence generation	<a href="#">#16a</a>	Method of generating the allocation sequence (eg, computer-generated random numbers), and list of any factors for stratification. To reduce predictability of a random sequence, details of any planned restriction (eg, blocking) should be provided in a separate document that is unavailable to those who enrol participants or assign interventions	Page 11, line 271	
Allocation concealment mechanism	<a href="#">#16b</a>	Mechanism of implementing the allocation sequence (eg, central telephone; sequentially numbered, opaque, sealed envelopes), describing any steps to conceal the sequence until interventions are assigned	Page, 11, line 271	
Allocation: implementation	<a href="#">#16c</a>	Who will generate the allocation sequence, who will enrol participants, and who will assign participants to interventions	Page 11, line 271	
Blinding (masking)	<a href="#">#17a</a>	Who will be blinded after assignment to interventions (eg, trial participants, care providers, outcome assessors, data analysts), and how	Page 11, line 271	
Blinding (masking): emergency unblinding	<a href="#">#17b</a>	If blinded, circumstances under which unblinding is permissible, and procedure for revealing a participant's allocated intervention during the trial	Page 11, line 271	

**Methods: Data collection, management, and analysis**

Data collection plan	<a href="#">#18a</a>	Plans for assessment and collection of outcome, baseline, and other trial data, including any related processes to promote data quality (eg, duplicate measurements, training of assessors) and a description of study instruments (eg, questionnaires, laboratory tests) along with their reliability and validity, if known. Reference to where data collection forms can be found, if not in the protocol	Page 14, line 345 (Table 1)	
Data collection plan: retention	<a href="#">#18b</a>	Plans to promote participant retention and complete follow-up, including list of any outcome data to be collected for participants who discontinue or deviate from intervention protocols	Page 9, line 213	
Data management	<a href="#">#19</a>	Plans for data entry, coding, security, and storage, including any related processes to promote data quality (eg, double data entry; range checks for data values). Reference to where details of data management procedures can be found, if not in the protocol	Page 20, line 463	
Statistics: outcomes	<a href="#">#20a</a>	Statistical methods for analysing primary and secondary outcomes. Reference to where other details of the statistical analysis plan can be found, if not in the protocol	Page 16, line 387	
Statistics: additional analyses	<a href="#">#20b</a>	Methods for any additional analyses (eg, subgroup and adjusted analyses)	Page 18, line 431	

Statistics: analysis population and missing data	<a href="#">#20c</a>	Definition of analysis population relating to protocol non-adherence (eg, as randomised analysis), and any statistical methods to handle missing data (eg, multiple imputation)	Page 17, line 410	
<b>Methods: Monitoring</b>				
Data monitoring: formal committee	<a href="#">#21a</a>	Composition of data monitoring committee (DMC); summary of its role and reporting structure; statement of whether it is independent from the sponsor and competing interests; and reference to where further details about its charter can be found, if not in the protocol. Alternatively, an explanation of why a DMC is not needed	Page 20, line 482	
Data monitoring: interim analysis	<a href="#">#21b</a>	Description of any interim analyses and stopping guidelines, including who will have access to these interim results and make the final decision to terminate the trial	N/A	Not applicable as this study was not designed with an interim analysis
Harms	<a href="#">#22</a>	Plans for collecting, assessing, reporting, and managing solicited and spontaneously reported adverse events and other unintended effects of trial interventions or trial conduct	Page 15, page 364	
Auditing	<a href="#">#23</a>	Frequency and procedures for auditing trial conduct, if any, and whether the process will be independent from investigators and the sponsor	Page 20, line 471; Page 20, line 482	
<b>Ethics and dissemination</b>				

Research ethics approval	<a href="#">#24</a>	Plans for seeking research ethics committee / institutional review board (REC / IRB) approval including the committee's reference number (if applicable)	Page 8, line 200	
Protocol amendments	<a href="#">#25</a>	Plans for communicating important protocol modifications (eg, changes to eligibility criteria, outcomes, analyses) to relevant parties (eg, investigators, REC / IRBs, trial participants, trial registries, journals, regulators)	Page 11, line 265	
Consent or assent	<a href="#">#26a</a>	Who will obtain informed consent or assent from potential trial participants or authorised surrogates, and how (see Item 32)	Page 10, page 251	
Consent or assent: ancillary studies	<a href="#">#26b</a>	Additional consent provisions for collection and use of participant data and biological specimens in ancillary studies, if applicable	Page 10, page 251	
Confidentiality	<a href="#">#27</a>	How personal information about potential and enrolled participants will be collected, shared, and maintained in order to protect confidentiality before, during, and after the trial	Page 20, line 476	
Declaration of interests	<a href="#">#28</a>	Financial and other competing interests for principal investigators for the overall trial and each study site	Page 27, line 649	
Data access	<a href="#">#29</a>	Statement of who will have access to the final trial dataset, and disclosure of contractual agreements that limit such access for investigators	Page 27, line 645	



Ancillary and post trial care	<a href="#">#30</a>	Provisions, if any, for ancillary and post-trial care, and for compensation to those who suffer harm from trial participation	Page 15, line 354	
Dissemination policy: trial results	<a href="#">#31a</a>	Plans for investigators and sponsor to communicate trial results to participants, healthcare professionals, the public, and other relevant groups (eg, via publication, reporting in results databases, or other data sharing arrangements), including any publication restrictions	Page 21, line 510	
Dissemination policy: authorship	<a href="#">#31b</a>	Authorship eligibility guidelines and any intended use of professional writers	N/A	Not applicable as there is no intent to use professional writers. All author contributions outline on Page 29
Dissemination policy: reproducible research	<a href="#">#31c</a>	Plans, if any, for granting public access to the full protocol, participant-level dataset, and statistical code	Page 21, line 510	
<b>Appendices</b>				
Informed consent materials	<a href="#">#32</a>	Model consent form and other related documentation given to participants and authorised surrogates	Consent Attached. See Additional file 2.	
Biological specimens	<a href="#">#33</a>	Plans for collection, laboratory evaluation, and storage of biological specimens for genetic or molecular analysis in the current trial and for future use in ancillary studies, if applicable	N/A	Not applicable as no biological specimens were collected as part of this trial.

It is strongly recommended that this checklist be read in conjunction with the SPIRIT 2013 Explanation & Elaboration for important clarification on the items. Amendments to the protocol should be tracked and dated. The SPIRIT checklist is copyrighted by the SPIRIT Group under the Creative Commons [“Attribution-](#)

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