

Comparative Efficacy of Adjunctive Bright Light Therapy Versus Placebo Light and SSRI Switch in Older Adults With Inadequate SSRI Response: A Single-Center Randomized Controlled Trial study

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Quality Check Process

Data were collected through paper questionnaires provided to patients and clinicians to be filled at specific time points during treatment. Completed questionnaires were then checked for incorrect compilation (e.g., not clearly marked answers, missing information) and transcribed to a worksheet for further analysis. The final worksheet contained information extracted directly from the medical record of the patient (e.g., age, gender, duration of the current depressive episode, ongoing therapy at time of recruitment), study arm the patient was included into, scores from the single items to all the evaluation scales presented at previously-determined timepoints, as well as summary statistics calculated directly from said scores (separated total scores for each scale at each time point). All the answers were scored on Likert scales to standardise them as much as possible. Finally, notes were included to annotate information not included in any previous cell (e.g., reason for drop-out when applicable). All personal information that could be used to trace back to the original patient were expunged from the dataset to preserve anonymity in every subsequent step of the analysis. The dataset was checked once more for missing data and internal errors (out-of-range values) before beginning the analyses.