

## Supplementary file 3. Detailed survey responses

Participant code	Who was blinded in your trial described as a double-blind?	What is your personal definition of a <u>single-blind</u> trial?	What is your personal definition of a <u>double-blinded</u> trial?	What is your personal definition of a <u>triple-blind</u> trial?	How often is your personal definition of a double-blind trial used in published trials?
1	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant data collectors data analysts	participants	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant data collectors	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant data collectors outcome assessors data analysts	No answer
2	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant data collectors	participants	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant data collectors	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant data collectors	50%
3	data analysts manuscript writers	participants	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant data collectors outcome assessors	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant data collectors outcome assessors data analysts manuscript writers	I am unable to respond ; in RCTs of rTMS this is less than 50 %

4	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant data collectors outcome assessors data analysts	participants	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant data collectors outcome assessors data analysts	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant data collectors outcome assessors data analysts	100%
5	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant data collectors	participants	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant data collectors	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant data collectors outcome assessors data analysts	I suppose that in the prospective clinical trials, nowadays, it will be used in a high percentage (80%?), if it is possible to perform the masking in the study area in question. But, of the total of studies that exist, I suspect that it will not be more than 20% of the total, taking into account the high number of retrospective studies.
6	a. participants b. healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant c. data collectors d. outcome assessors e. data analysts f. manuscript writers	1. participants OR 2. healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant	1. participants 2. healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant 3. data collectors 4. outcome assessors 5.	1. participants 2. healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant 3. data collectors 4. outcome assessors 5. data analysts 6.	25%

7	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant data collectors outcome assessors data analysts manuscript writers	participants	> 1. participants > 2. healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant > 3. data collectors > 4. outcome assessors > 5. data analysts > 6. manuscript writers	Never heard of this term?	Not sure I would hope at least 80%
8	a. participants b. data collectors c. outcome assessors d. data analysts	1. data collectors 2. outcome assessors 3. data analysts	1. participants 2. data collectors 3. outcome assessors 4. data analysts	1. participants 2. healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant 3. data collectors 4. outcome assessors 5. data analysts	20%
9	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant data collectors outcome assessors data analysts manuscript writers	No response?	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant data collectors outcome assessors data analysts manuscript writers	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant data collectors outcome assessors data analysts manuscript writers	In trials performed by pharmaceutical companies ph 1 trials are often single blinded whereas all other trials are called double-blinded but are often triple blinded.....or more .....as the only unblinded person(s) is a pharmacist or an assessor who may be unblinded by side effect reports. Those unblinded folks would be clearly specified in the protocol and would not be involved in collection of efficacy data.
10	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant data collectors outcome assessors  manuscript writers	No response?	I cannot answer the rest of the questions. I don't use "double-blind" or "single-blind" any longer, as I think they are ambiguous. I adhere to Annals of Internal Medicine guidelines that advises authors to avoid those terms, but to specifically note		No answer

			who was blinded.		
11	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant data collectors outcome assessors data analysts	1. healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant data collectors outcome assessors data analyst	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant data collectors outcome assessors data analysts manuscript writers	I don't specify my personal definition in my trials
12	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant data collectors outcome assessors	participants	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant data collectors outcome assessors	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant data collectors outcome assessors data analysts	100%
13	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant data collectors outcome assessors	participants	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant data collectors outcome assessors	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant data collectors outcome assessors data analysts manuscript writers	90%

14	data collectors outcome assessors	participants data collectors outcome assessors data analysts	participants data collectors outcome assessors data analysts	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant data collectors outcome assessors data analysts	60%
15	participants * healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant * outcome assessors	participants 4. outcome assessors	1. participants and/or 2. healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant 4. outcome assessors	1. participants 2. healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant 5. outcome assessors	90%
16	participants data collectors	participants	a. participants b. data collector	participants data collectors healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant	70%
17	participants * healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant * data collectors * outcome assessors * data analysts	healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant 3. data collectors 4. outcome assessors 5. data analysts	. participants 2. healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant 3. data collectors 4. outcome assessors 5. data analysts	1. participants 2. healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant 3. data collectors 4. outcome assessors 5. data analysts	_I do not know

18	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant data collectors outcome assessors data analysts	participants	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant data collectors outcome assessors data analysts	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant data collectors outcome assessors data analysts manuscript writers	This is very hard to estimate. It probably depends on the field of interest and will widely vary between e.g. Oncology, Anesthesiology, Pain, Surgery, Internal Medicine etc.
19	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant data collectors outcome assessors	participants	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant data collectors outcome assessors	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant data collectors outcome assessors data analysts	90%
20	healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant data collectors outcome assessors data analysts manuscript writers	. participants b. healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant c. data collectors d. outcome assessors e. data analysts f. manuscript writers	participants b. healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant c. data collectors d. outcome assessors e. data analysts f. manuscript writers	a. participants b. healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant c. data collectors d. outcome assessors e. data analysts f. manuscript writers	20%

21	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant data collectors	participants	a. participants b. healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant c. data collectors	a. participants b. healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant c. data collectors d. outcome assessors e. data analysts	No answer
22	participants data collectors outcome assessors data analysts	data collectors outcome assessors	participants data collectors outcome assessors	participants data collectors outcome assessors data analysts	50%
23	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant data collectors outcome assessors data analysts	participants	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant  outcome assessors	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant data collectors outcome assessors data analysts	95%

24	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant data collectors outcome assessors	either participants or healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant, but generally participants	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant data collectors outcome assessors	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant data collectors outcome assessors data analysts	just a and b probably 90%, with the addition of assessors probably around 40%.
25	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant	participants	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant	participants b. healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant  d. outcome assessors	80%



26	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant data collectors outcome assessors	participants	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant data collectors outcome assessors	participants, healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant data collectors outcome assessors data analysts	90%
27	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant data collectors	participants	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant data analystist	From my point of view, data collector does not "take part" in the definition of single/double/triple blind trial, because the data collector always is blinded. In my research is very difficult to use a double or triple blind trial. I have only used in research with drugs (5% of my reserach).
28	* participants * healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant * data collectors * outcome assessors * data analysts	participants	1. participants 2. healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant 3. data collectors 4. outcome assessors	1. participants 2. healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant 3. data collectors 4. outcome assessors 5. data analysts	Sorry, can't answer. However I rarely see "triple-blind" used, despite my answer to 3...and that many of my own "double-blind" trials were "triple-blind"

29	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant data collectors outcome assessors	participants	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant data collectors outcome assessors	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant data collectors outcome assessors data analysts manuscript writers	Do not know. Do you mean what I read or what I have published? I have publishes only one trial.
30	participants ALL healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant data collectors outcome assessors data analysts	participants	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant  data collectors  data analysts		80%

31	outcome assessors data analysts manuscript writers	a. participants b. data collectors c. outcome assessors d. data analysts	a. participants b. healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant c. data collectors d. outcome assessors e. data analysts	a. participants b. healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant c. data collectors d. outcome assessors e. data analysts f. manuscript writers	70%
32	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant data collectors outcome assessors	participants	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant data collectors outcome assessors	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant data collectors outcome assessors data analysts manuscript writers	80%
33	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant data collectors Note that the healthcare providers were at the same time the data collectors and the outcome assessors in our trial.	participants	a. participants b. healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant c. data collectors	a. Participants b. healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant c. data collectors d. outcome assessors	90%
34	participants data collectors outcome assessors data analysts manuscript writers	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant data collectors outcome assessors	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant data collectors outcome assessors	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant data collectors outcome assessors	I do not have a personal definition. double blind is any two of the patient, the clinician, the outcome/data collectors. Many trials cannot be truly blinded, including the one you refer to above, where the administering physician is targeting a certain depth of anaesthesia.

35	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant outcome assessors	50%
36	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant data collectors outcome assessors data analysts manuscript writers	a. participants b. healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant c. data collectors d. outcome assessors e. data analysts f. manuscript writers	a. participants b. healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant c. data collectors d. outcome assessors e. data analysts f. manuscript writers	a. participants b. healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant c. data collectors d. outcome assessors e. data analysts f. manuscript writers	No answer
37	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant (ATTEMPTED BUT SUCCESS UNCERTAIN) data collectors outcome assessors	participants	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant data collectors outcome assessors data analysts	SORRY, BUT I HAVE NO IDEA.

38	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant data collectors outcome assessors	participants	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant data collectors outcome assessors	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant data collectors outcome assessors data analysts	80%
39	healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant - after first day only [nurses in preadmission clinic were actually part of the intervention] data collectors outcome assessors data analysts manuscript writers	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant	participants healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant outcome assessors	75
40	No answer	No answer	No answer	No answer	90