

## Supplementary Table S1. Exploratory comparison of baseline characteristics and baseline HRQoL scores by CLDQ complete-case status in the parent baseline survey dataset (N = 398)

Completers were participants included in the CLDQ complete-case analysis (n = 131); non-completers were participants in the available baseline survey dataset who were not included in the CLDQ complete-case analysis (n = 267).

| Section                     | Characteristic   | Category / measure         | Completers (n=131) | Non-completers (n=267) | p value       |
|-----------------------------|------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|---------------|
| Demographic characteristics | Sex              | Male                       | 52/129 (40.3)      | 114/266 (42.9)         | <b>0.6305</b> |
|                             |                  | Female                     | 77/129 (59.7)      | 152/266 (57.1)         |               |
|                             |                  | Missing, n                 | 2                  | 1                      |               |
|                             | Age group        | 20s                        | 0/130 (0.0)        | 1/265 (0.4)            | <b>0.2907</b> |
|                             |                  | 30s                        | 4/130 (3.1)        | 5/265 (1.9)            |               |
|                             |                  | 40s                        | 3/130 (2.3)        | 16/265 (6.0)           |               |
|                             |                  | 50s                        | 17/130 (13.1)      | 54/265 (20.4)          |               |
|                             |                  | 60s                        | 45/130 (34.6)      | 77/265 (29.1)          |               |
|                             |                  | 70s                        | 45/130 (34.6)      | 87/265 (32.8)          |               |
|                             |                  | 80s                        | 16/130 (12.3)      | 24/265 (9.1)           |               |
|                             |                  | 90s or older               | 0/130 (0.0)        | 1/265 (0.4)            |               |
|                             |                  | Missing, n                 | 1                  | 2                      |               |
|                             | Occupation       | Company employee           | 16/128 (12.5)      | 34/259 (13.1)          | <b>0.2892</b> |
|                             |                  | Company executive          | 7/128 (5.5)        | 12/259 (4.6)           |               |
|                             |                  | Self-employed              | 14/128 (10.9)      | 49/259 (18.9)          |               |
|                             |                  | Part-time/temporary worker | 16/128 (12.5)      | 19/259 (7.3)           |               |
|                             |                  | Homemaker                  | 21/128 (16.4)      | 51/259 (19.7)          |               |
|                             |                  | Unemployed                 | 34/128 (26.6)      | 61/259 (23.6)          |               |
|                             |                  | Retired                    | 16/128 (12.5)      | 22/259 (8.5)           |               |
|                             |                  | Other                      | 4/128 (3.1)        | 11/259 (4.2)           |               |
|                             |                  | Missing, n                 | 3                  | 8                      |               |
| Baseline HRQoL scores       | SF-8 PCS         | n; mean (SD)               | 124; 49.53 (6.31)  | 255; 49.39 (6.09)      | <b>0.8323</b> |
|                             | SF-8 MCS         | n; mean (SD)               | 124; 48.77 (6.95)  | 255; 49.67 (6.17)      | <b>0.2008</b> |
|                             | EQ-5D-5L utility | n; mean (SD)               | 131; 0.912 (0.140) | 260; 0.919 (0.123)     | <b>0.6161</b> |
|                             | CLDQ domain 1    | n; mean (SD)               | 131; 5.20 (1.17)   | 264; 5.21 (1.02)       | <b>0.9581</b> |
|                             | CLDQ domain 2    | n; mean (SD)               | 131; 5.36 (1.18)   | 267; 5.21 (1.28)       | <b>0.2441</b> |
|                             | CLDQ domain 3    | n; mean (SD)               | 131; 5.21 (1.23)   | 260; 5.25 (1.30)       | <b>0.7834</b> |
|                             | CLDQ domain 4    | n; mean (SD)               | 131; 5.84 (1.09)   | 267; 5.78 (1.08)       | <b>0.6226</b> |
|                             | CLDQ domain 5    | n; mean (SD)               | 131; 5.80 (1.03)   | 267; 5.66 (1.13)       | <b>0.2255</b> |
|                             | CLDQ domain 6    | n; mean (SD)               | 131; 5.43 (0.96)   | 267; 5.32 (1.12)       | <b>0.3399</b> |
|                             | CLDQ total score | n; mean (SD)               | 131; 5.21 (0.91)   | 267; 5.11 (1.02)       | <b>0.3047</b> |

**Notes.** Values for categorical variables are n/N non-missing (%), and missing values are shown separately. For continuous HRQoL scores, values are n; mean (SD), and n varies because of item-level missingness at baseline. p values are from the SAS output: chi-square tests for categorical variables and two-sample t-tests for continuous variables. Missing values were excluded from the chi-square tests. This exploratory comparison was conducted in the parent baseline survey dataset and should not be interpreted as a partition of the 344-patient descriptive clinical cohort in Table 1 of the main manuscript. Abbreviations: CLDQ, Chronic Liver Disease Questionnaire; EQ-5D-5L, EuroQol 5-Dimension 5-Level questionnaire; HRQoL, health-related quality of life; MCS, mental component summary; PCS, physical component summary; SF-8, 8-Item Short-Form Health Survey.

# Supplementary File S1

## Questionnaire Overview, Assessment Schedule, and Study-Specific Items

### *Questionnaire Survey on Disease Status and Daily Life of Patients with Hepatitis C*

**Copyright and licensing note:** This supplementary file clarifies the structure, timing, and study-specific content of the questionnaire survey. The full item wording of standardized patient-reported outcome instruments, including EQ-5D-5L, SF-8, and CLDQ, is not reproduced because these instruments are subject to copyright or licensing restrictions.

## 1. Purpose and study context

The questionnaire package was used in a multicenter longitudinal observational study of adults with chronic hepatitis C receiving antiviral therapy in routine practice in Japan.

The survey was designed to capture patient-reported health status, daily life, and treatment experience before treatment and during follow-up. The original participant materials explained that the survey aimed to clarify how treatment may improve the daily lives, physical condition, and mental status of patients with hepatitis C.

| Item                     | Description                                                                                                                                                                              |
|--------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Research project         | Health and Labour Sciences Research Grant: Research on Health Economic Evaluation Contributing to Viral Hepatitis Control Measures in Japan (H26-Kansei-Ippan-03; Hirao Research Group). |
| Substudy                 | Time-series changes in utility values during various treatments for viral hepatitis and health economic evaluation.                                                                      |
| Responsible institution  | Division of Preventive Medicine, Health Informatics, Graduate School of Sports and Health Science, Daito Bunka University.                                                               |
| Questionnaire collection | Participants completed anonymous questionnaires and returned them by mail using the enclosed return envelope.                                                                            |
| Repeated linkage         | Questionnaires were anonymous; envelope/questionnaire numbers were used only to link repeated responses from the same participant across time points.                                    |

## 2. Assessment schedule

Participants received five questionnaires and were asked to complete one at each scheduled assessment point.

| Questionnaire     | Timing                                               | Content overview                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|-------------------|------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1st questionnaire | Before treatment                                     | Baseline demographic and clinical background; health status and patient-reported outcome measures; work/daily activity items.                                                                                                   |
| 2nd questionnaire | 12 weeks after treatment initiation                  | Treatment regimen and planned duration; treatment setting; outpatient visit frequency; satisfaction; adverse effects; virologic status as explained by physician; unplanned hospitalization; patient-reported outcome measures. |
| 3rd questionnaire | 24 weeks after treatment initiation                  | Interval-based outpatient visit frequency, satisfaction, adverse effects, virologic status as explained by physician, unplanned hospitalization, and patient-reported outcome measures.                                         |
| 4th questionnaire | 36 weeks after treatment initiation                  | Same interval-based treatment-experience items and patient-reported outcome measures as at 24 weeks.                                                                                                                            |
| 5th questionnaire | 48 weeks after treatment initiation, where available | Same interval-based treatment-experience items and patient-reported outcome measures as at 24 and 36 weeks.                                                                                                                     |

## 3. Baseline questionnaire: study-specific items

The baseline questionnaire included demographic and liver-disease background items before the standardized patient-reported outcome sections.

| Item category                                    | Variables collected                                                                                                                               |
|--------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Demographic background</b>                    | Sex, age group, and occupation.                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Liver disease status</b>                      | Self-reported diagnosis of hepatitis C disease status: chronic hepatitis, liver cirrhosis, or “do not know”.                                      |
| <b>History of hepatocellular carcinoma</b>       | Previous diagnosis of hepatocellular carcinoma: yes, no, or “do not know”.                                                                        |
| <b>Comorbid conditions</b>                       | Up to three other diseases requiring regular medical visits or medication could be listed.                                                        |
| <b>Prior hospitalization and outpatient care</b> | Hospitalization for hepatitis C testing/treatment in the previous year and outpatient visit frequency in the previous year.                       |
| <b>Prior interferon treatment</b>                | History of interferon treatment, number of previous courses, timing of the most recent treatment, and duration of the most recent treatment.      |
| <b>Work and daily activities</b>                 | Employment status and work/daily activity impairment items were collected to describe the impact of health problems on work and usual activities. |

#### 4. Follow-up questionnaires: treatment-related study-specific items

At follow-up, participants answered treatment-related questions before completing the patient-reported outcome sections.

| Item category                                     | Variables collected                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|---------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Treatment regimen</b>                          | At 12 weeks, the current hepatitis C treatment method was recorded; options included sofosbuvir/ribavirin, ledipasvir/sofosbuvir, daclatasvir/asunaprevir, interferon-containing regimens, conventional interferon treatment, and other regimens. |
| <b>Planned treatment duration</b>                 | At 12 weeks, the planned treatment duration was recorded.                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Treatment setting</b>                          | At 12 weeks, patients reported whether treatment was initiated during hospitalization or as outpatient care.                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Outpatient visit frequency</b>                 | At 12, 24, 36, and 48 weeks, patients reported average outpatient visit frequency during the interval since treatment initiation or since the previous questionnaire.                                                                             |
| <b>Treatment satisfaction</b>                     | At 12, 24, 36, and 48 weeks, patients reported satisfaction with the current hepatitis C treatment.                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Adverse effects</b>                            | At 12, 24, 36, and 48 weeks, patients reported adverse effects related to hepatitis C treatment, with free-text details when applicable.                                                                                                          |
| <b>Virologic status as explained by physician</b> | At 12, 24, 36, and 48 weeks, patients reported how their physician explained the blood hepatitis C virus status, including clearance, persistence, recurrence after clearance, or unknown/not explained.                                          |
| <b>Unplanned hospitalization</b>                  | At 12, 24, 36, and 48 weeks, patients reported whether unplanned hospitalization had occurred because of adverse effects or newly identified illnesses requiring examination or treatment, with reasons recorded when applicable.                 |

## 5. Standardized patient-reported outcome instruments

The questionnaire package included the following standardized instruments. Full item wording is not reproduced in this supplementary file because these instruments are subject to copyright or licensing restrictions.

| Instrument | Construct                                                     | Content summarized                                                                                                                                                          | Assessment timing                                  |
|------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| EQ-5D-5L   | Generic preference-based health utility measure               | Five dimensions: mobility, self-care, usual activities, pain/discomfort, and anxiety/depression. Utilities were calculated using the Japanese value set.                    | Baseline, 12, 24, 36, and 48 weeks where available |
| SF-8       | Generic health-related quality-of-life measure                | Eight health concepts: general health, physical functioning, role physical, bodily pain, vitality, social functioning, mental health, and role emotional.                   | Baseline, 12, 24, 36, and 48 weeks where available |
| CLDQ       | Liver disease-specific health-related quality-of-life measure | Twenty-nine items summarized into domains including abdominal symptoms, fatigue, systemic symptoms, activity, emotional function, and worry; total score was also analyzed. | Baseline, 12, 24, 36, and 48 weeks where available |

## 6. Patient-reported and medical-record-derived data

| Data source                                              | Examples                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Patient-reported questionnaire data</b>               | Demographics such as sex, age group, and occupation; self-reported disease-related history; treatment experience and satisfaction items; EQ-5D-5L, SF-8, CLDQ, and work/daily activity items. |
| <b>Medical-record-derived or clinician-provided data</b> | Clinical disease categories and treatment-related information used for analysis were extracted from clinical records or confirmed in routine care, as described in the manuscript.            |