

Changes in lung function and changes in patient-reported outcomes in patients with idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis (IPF)

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INTRODUCTION

- As IPF progresses, patients experience deterioration in lung function and health-related quality of life (HRQL).^{1,2} However, the relationships between changes in lung function and meaningful differences in HRQL remain uncertain.
- Understanding the minimal important change to the patient (MICP) of clinical measures, *i.e.*, the smallest difference in a measure that is perceived as important by patients, is important to assist clinicians in the interpretation of changes in these measures.

AIM

- To assess relationships between changes in lung function and changes in HRQL, and to estimate MICPs in lung function measures, in patients with IPF.

METHODS

The IPF-PRO Registry

- The IPF-PRO Registry is a prospective observational registry of patients with IPF.³ Patients with IPF that was diagnosed or confirmed at the enrolling center in the prior 6 months were enrolled at 46 US sites.
- Patients were followed prospectively, with data on lung function and HRQL collected as part of usual care.

Analyses

- HRQL was assessed using the St George's Respiratory Questionnaire (SGRQ)⁴ total and activity domain scores and 12-item Short Form Survey (SF-12) questionnaire⁵ physical component summary (PCS) score.
- As lung function measurements varied in frequency and timing, a joint model based on measurements and visit frequency was used to generate estimates for FVC % predicted and DLco % predicted for each patient for each day of follow-up. This provided estimates for the measures of lung function at the same time-points as the measures of HRQL.
- Correlations between FVC and DLco % predicted and each HRQL measure, and between changes in these measures from enrollment to 12 months and from 12 to 24 months, were assessed using Pearson correlation coefficients (*r*).
- MICPs for FVC and DLco % predicted were estimated using two anchor-based approaches:
 - Receiver operating characteristic (ROC) curves were constructed to identify thresholds of change in each lung function measure that best divided patients into those who had versus did not have a ≥ 5 -unit increase (worsening) in SGRQ activity score and/or ≥ 5 -unit decrease (worsening) in SF-12 PCS score.
 - A logistic regression approach was applied to classify patients into those who had versus did not have this degree of deterioration in one or both anchors.

CONCLUSIONS

- Among patients in the IPF-PRO Registry, changes in lung function were not closely related to changes in the SGRQ activity domain score or SF-12 PCS score over 12 months.
- No threshold of change in lung function reliably distinguished patients with versus without a meaningful concurrent deterioration in HRQL.
- These findings highlight the importance of assessing both lung function and HRQL in patients with IPF.

RESULTS

Baseline characteristics of analysis cohort (n=736)

Male	539 (73.2)
Age, years	70 (65, 75)
Ever smoker	494 (67.1)
FVC % predicted	73.9 (64.0, 85.5)
DLco % predicted	44.2 (35.3, 53.2)
SGRQ total score	36.7 (23.9, 49.9)
SGRQ activity score	53.6 (35.8, 71.0)
SF-12 PCS score	40.0 (33.0, 46.7)
Oxygen use at rest and with activity	96 (13.0)
Oxygen use with activity only	112 (15.2)

The analysis cohort included all patients with ≥ 1 value for the SGRQ activity score between 3 and 27 months after enrollment. Data are median (Q1, Q3) or n (%). Not all patients provided data for all variables.

Correlations (*r*) between FVC % predicted and patient-reported outcomes and between changes in these measures

	SGRQ activity score	SGRQ total score	SF-12 PCS score
At enrollment	-0.31	-0.29	0.26
At 12 months	-0.37	-0.38	0.28
At 24 months	-0.40	-0.37	0.30
Change from enrollment to 12 months	-0.28	0.08	0.20
Change from 12 to 24 months	-0.25	-0.35	0.35

Correlations (*r*) between DLco % predicted and patient-reported outcomes and between changes in these measures

	SGRQ activity score	SGRQ total score	SF-12 PCS score
At enrollment	-0.32	-0.29	0.24
At 12 months	-0.42	-0.39	0.29
At 24 months	-0.43	-0.38	0.33
Change from enrollment to 12 months	-0.15	0.11	0.06
Change from 12 to 24 months	-0.20	-0.24	0.23

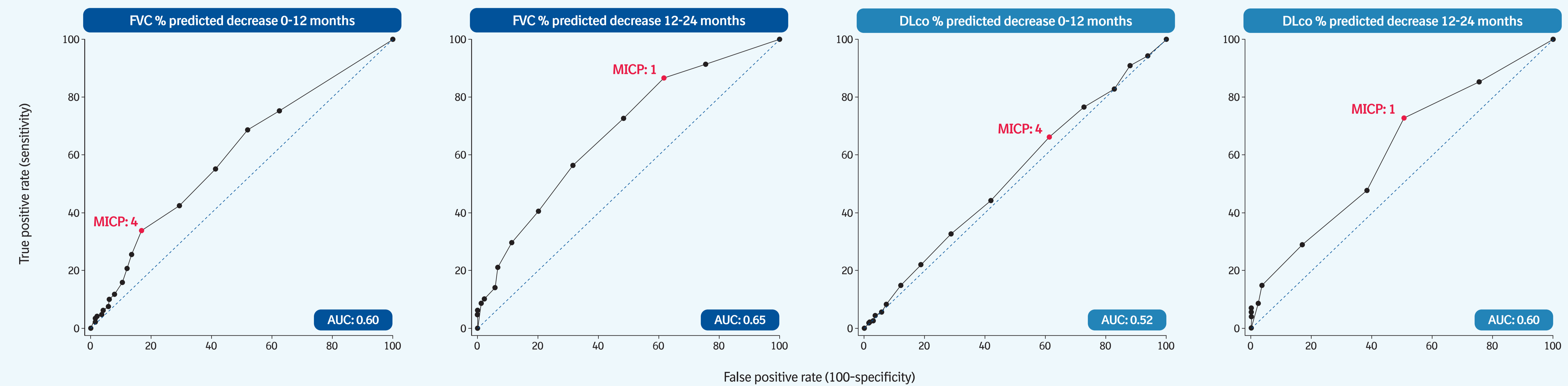
Estimated MICP for FVC % predicted

	Enrollment to 12 months	12 to 24 months
ROC curve	-4	-1
Logistic regression	-3	-3

Estimated MICP for DLco % predicted

	Enrollment to 12 months	12 to 24 months
ROC curve	-4	-1
Logistic regression	-5	-2

ROC curves for changes in FVC and DLco % predicted and deterioration in anchors (SGRQ activity score and/or SF-12 PCS score) during the same period



The area under the curve (AUC) indicates the ability of the predictor to discriminate between the outcomes. An AUC of 1 indicates perfect discrimination and an AUC of 0.5 indicates that the predictor is no better than a random guess. A random guess would yield a point along the blue dashed line. Red dots indicate the value selected as the MICP.

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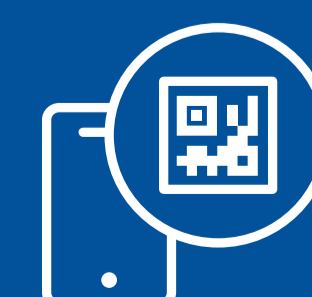
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND DISCLOSURES

The IPF-PRO/ILD-PRO Registry is supported by Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals, Inc and run in collaboration with the Duke Clinical Research Institute and enrolling centers. The authors meet criteria for authorship as recommended by the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE). The authors did not receive payment for development of this poster. Julie Fleming and Wendy Morris of Fleishman-Hillard provided editorial assistance, which was contracted and funded by Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals, Inc. Boehringer Ingelheim was given the opportunity to review the poster for medical and scientific accuracy as well as intellectual property considerations. Jamie L Todd is a faculty member of the Duke Clinical Research Institute, which receives funding support from Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals, Inc to run the IPF-PRO/ILD-PRO Registry; she also reports grants from AstraZeneca and CareDx and participation in advisory boards for Altavant, Avalyn, Natera, Sanofi, Theravance.



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IPF-PRO Registry enrolling centers: Albany Medical Center, Albany, NY; Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX; Baylor University Medical Center at Dallas, Dallas, TX; Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland, OH; Columbia University Medical Center/New York Presbyterian Hospital, New York, NY; Duke University Medical Center, Durham, NC; Froedtert & The Medical College of Wisconsin Community Physicians, Milwaukee, WI; Houston Methodist Lung Center, Houston, TX; Lahey Clinic, Burlington, MA; Loyola University Health System, Maywood, IL; Lynchburg Pulmonary Associates, Lynchburg, VA; Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, SC; National Jewish Health, Denver, CO; NYU Medical Center, New York, NY; Piedmont Healthcare, Austell, GA; Pulmonary Associates of Stamford, Stamford, CT; Pulmonix LLC, Greensboro, NC; Renovatio Clinical, The Woodlands, TX; Salem Chest and Southeastern Clinical Research Center, Winston Salem, NC; South Miami Hospital, South Miami, FL; St. Joseph's Hospital, Phoenix, AZ; Stanford University, Stanford, CA; Temple University, Philadelphia, PA; The Oregon Clinic, Portland, OR; Tulane University, New Orleans, LA; UNC Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC; University of Alabama at Birmingham, Birmingham, AL; University of California, Davis, Sacramento, CA; University of California Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA; University of Cincinnati Medical Center, Cincinnati, OH; University of Louisville, Louisville, KY; University of Miami, Miami, FL; University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI; University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN; University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA; University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA; University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA; UT Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas, TX; Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, TN; Vermont Lung Center, Colchester, VT; Wake Forest University, Winston Salem, NC; Washington University, St. Louis, MO; Weill Cornell Medical College, New York, NY; Wilmington Health and PMG Research, Wilmington, NC; Yale School of Medicine, New Haven, CT.