

## **Second email exchange confirming that all patients were started on Celexa in their baseline visit**

**From:** Ed Pigott [mailto:pathware@erols.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 01, 2008 6:11 AM  
**To:** 'Wisniewski, Stephen'  
**Subject:** One more STAR\*D Question

Dr. Wisniewski:

Thank you again for clarifying the survival analysis. I have submitted for publication a manuscript—part of which summarizes STAR\*D—and a question came up in the peer-review process that I cannot definitively answer.

In the step 1 study, were the eligible patients started on citalopram in their initial baseline visit with subsequent follow-up visits starting two weeks later OR were they started on citalopram in the first follow-up visit two weeks after the baseline visit? The article is not clear on this point.

On page 30 (see attached), the article states, *“The protocol recommended treatment visits at 2, 4, 6, 9, and 12 weeks (with an optional week-14 visit if needed.”* Since table 2 (page 32) indicates that the mean *“Time in treatment (weeks)”* was 12.0 with a standard deviation of 2.6 for the 790 remitted patients, my assumption is that all eligible patients were started on citalopram in their initial baseline visit versus having to come back two weeks later. Otherwise, table 2’s data is inconsistent with STAR\*D’s treatment protocol since the “average” remitted patient would have attended the optional week-14 visit and some would have had visits past week-16 from their initial baseline visit.

Thank you for your responsiveness,  
Ed

---

**From:** Wisniewski, Stephen [mailto:wisniew@edc.pitt.edu]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 01, 2008 7:21 AM  
**To:** Ed Pigott  
**Subject:** RE: One more STAR\*D Question

In the step 1 study, were the eligible patients started on citalopram in their initial baseline visit with subsequent follow-up visits starting two weeks later OR were they started on citalopram in the first follow-up visit two weeks after the baseline visit? The article is not clear on this point.

Started at the initial baseline visit.  
steve