*Appendix 4.*  Mean differences in EORTC subscale scores over follow-up between 3 and 60 months following surgery, estimated from multivariable regression models adjusted for age at baseline and time since surgery

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Independent Variables** | **Dependent Variables: EORTC subscales** 1 | | | | | | | | | |
| **Global health status / QoL2** | **Fatigue3** | **Pain3** | **Urinary symptoms3,4** | **Bowel symptoms3,5** | **Physical functioning2** | **Role functioning2** | **Emotional functioning2** | **Cognitive functioning2** | **Social functioning2** |
| **1) Comorbidity status *(ref: none):*** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **- Yes, non-limiting comorbidities** | -2.0 | 2.8 | 3.7\* | 1.8 | 1.2 | -3.7\* | -1.8 | -1.0 | -1.7 | -1.2 |
| **- Yes, limiting comorbidities** | -14.0\*\*\* | 19.1\*\*\* | 24.3\*\*\* | 7.2\*\*\* | 7.4\*\*\* | -20.9\*\*\* | -20.2\*\*\* | -10.7\*\*\* | -11.8\*\*\* | -16.1\*\*\* |
| **2) High blood pressure *(ref: no)*** | -3.1+ | 2.3 | 4.0\*\* | 0.6 | -1.1+ | -4.0\*\* | -2.9+ | 0.1 | 0.6 | -1.6 |
| **3) Arthritis/rheumatism *(ref: no)*** | -8.6\*\*\* | 10.9\*\*\* | 17\*\*\* | 4.2\*\*\* | 4.9\*\*\* | -12.4\*\*\* | -13.2\*\*\* | -6.8\*\*\* | -5.6\*\*\* | -11.6\*\*\* |
| **4) Depression/anxiety *(ref: no)*** | -13.7\*\*\* | 17.6\*\*\* | 15.9\*\*\* | 5.8\*\*\* | 6.7\*\*\* | -16.8\*\*\* | -15.6\*\*\* | -22\*\*\* | -13.9\*\*\* | -16.1\*\*\* |
| **5) Diabetes/high blood sugar *(ref: no)*** | -3.6+ | 3.6 | 5.0\* | 3.9\*\*\* | -0.2 | -6.1\*\* | -2.5 | 1.8 | 1.2 | 1.4 |
| **6) Asthma/chromic lung disease *(ref: no)*** | -7.3\*\* | 8.7\*\* | 7.0\*\* | 1.8 | 2.8\* | -11.9\*\*\* | -9.3\*\*\* | -4.8\* | -5.9\*\* | -5.4\*\* |

\*\*\* p<0.001; \*\* p<0.01; \* p<0.05

+ was statistically significant (p<0.05) in a bivariate model and multivariable model adjusted only for time since surgery, but became insignificant after adjusting for age.

1 EORTC subscale from QLQ-C30 or CR-29

2 *Higher* scores for global health status/QoL and functioning subscales indicate *better* health/QoL and functioning

3 *Higher* scores for symptom subscales indicate *worse* symptoms

4 Urinary symptoms include urinary frequency, urinary incontinence and dysuria

5 Bowel symptoms include blood and mucus in stool, stool frequency, abdominal pain, pain in buttocks/anal area/rectum, bloating, flatulence and faecal incontinence