IMMEDIATE RELEASE

To: Journal Editors

Subject: EuroQol Group Scientific Excellence awards

Background

The EuroQol Group was founded in 1987, initially comprising a small number of researchers working collaboratively on specific topics related to the measurement and valuation of health. Their results were freely distributed within the group through frequent face-to-face meetings. Papers were seldom submitted for publication without advance circulation of draft texts within the Group. As a consequence members were kept well-informed about the latest research. More than a quarter of a Century later the range and diversity of EQ-5D related research means that few if any members of the Group have the possibility of keeping abreast of the ever-changing catalogue of journal publications.

It is doubtful nowadays that any single member of the Group is aware of all publication material even within selected areas of special interest.

It was partly this realisation that encouraged the Executive to establish an Award for Scientific Excellence that recognises the best papers related to EQ-5D technologies published in peer-reviewed journals.

An Awards Committee was set up late last year comprising Xavier Badia, Henry Bailey, Knut Stavem and Paul Kind (Chair) with the task of identifying a shortlist of published papers deemed to represent the best scientific publications of the calendar year 1\textsuperscript{st} January – 31\textsuperscript{st} December 2013.

A total of 808 journal articles were identified during that period and these were classified according to a pre-specified classification. The overwhelming majority of papers (85\%) reported on EQ-5D applications with more than 80\% of these appearing in clinical journals.

One area of surprising interest was the use of EQ-5D in calibrating and designing new instruments, conferring something of a \textit{de facto} role for EQ-5D as a “standard” in this field.

The Awards Committee agreed a set of 5 broad assessment criteria for use in evaluating the relative strength of all papers, including methodological relevance, originality and potential for practical implementation.
An initial “long” list was prepared comprising a total of 18 papers from which a final “short” list was selected.

Two papers were selected as the clear preferences of the Awards Committee with ratings that dominated other candidate papers as follows:


**PULLENAYEGUM E, XIE F.** Scoring the 5-level EQ-5D: can latent utilities derived from a discrete choice model be transformed to health utilities derived from time tradeoff tasks? *Med Decis Making*, 33, 567-78

The other shortlisted papers are given on page 3 of this text.

A formal announcement of these Awards will be made on September 26th at the Scientific Plenary Meeting of the EuroQol Group in Stockholm

The EuroQol Group Award for Scientific Excellence this year carries with it a monetary prize of 3,000 Euros

Following the endorsement of the Award Committee report the EuroQol Group Executive has agreed that the Award process should be continued for publications appearing during the 2014 calendar year.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT ONE OF THE FOLLOWING**

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OTHER SHORTLISTED PAPERS


BAGUST A. Improving valuation sampling of EQ-5D health states. *Health Qual Life Outcomes*, 11, 14


WHYNES D K Does the correspondence between EQ-5D health state description and VAS score vary by medical condition? *Health Qual Life Outcomes*, 11,155