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## **Relationships between patient- and session-related variables and outcomes of psychiatric genetic counseling**

Running head: Variables and outcomes of genetic counseling

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1 **ABSTRACT**

2 Little data currently exists regarding whether and how different characteristics of a patient and session  
3 influence outcomes of genetic counseling (GC). We conducted an exploratory retrospective chart review  
4 of data from a specialist psychiatric GC clinic (where patients complete the Genetic Counseling Outcome  
5 Scale (GCOS) as part of routine care before and after GC). We used ANOVA and linear regression to  
6 analyze GCOS change scores in relation to twelve patient/session-related variables. Three hundred and  
7 seven charts were included in analyses. Overall, GCOS scores increased significantly after GC ( $p < 0.0005$ ,  
8  $d = 1.10$ ), with large effect size, and significant increases in all GCOS subdomains except adaptation.  
9 Significant associations with GCOS change score were identified for three variables: mode of delivery of  
10 GC (in-person/telephone/telehealth,  $p = 0.048$ ,  $\eta^2 = 0.020$ ), primary indication for the appointment  
11 (understanding recurrence risk versus other primary indications,  $p = 0.001$ ,  $\eta^2 = 0.037$ ), and baseline  
12 GCOS score ( $p < 0.000$ ,  $R = 0.353$ ). Our data showing that those with low baseline GCOS scores benefit  
13 most from GC could be used to explore the possibility of triaging those referred for GC based on this  
14 variable, and/or to identify individuals to refer to GC.

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17 **Key Words**

18 Outcomes research; predictors of patient outcomes; empowerment; genetic counseling outcome  
19 scale; medical genetics services; clinical genetics; triage

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**INTRODUCTION**

The genetic counseling (GC) profession has recognized the importance of identifying and measuring patient outcomes<sup>1,2</sup>. GC outcomes research has historically focused on cancer GC<sup>3,4,5,6</sup> and most studies have used simple pre-post study design and the assessment of knowledge/satisfaction-based outcomes<sup>7</sup>. There has been comparatively less research addressing psychological outcomes of GC, especially outside of the cancer context, and very little research exploring the effects of patient- or session-related variables on these outcomes. Studies have explored patient outcomes of GC in relation to: patient age and education level<sup>8</sup>, sex and referral indication<sup>9</sup>, mode of service delivery<sup>10,11</sup>, method of family history collection<sup>12</sup>, provision of chance for illness recurrence<sup>13</sup>, and physical counseling environment<sup>14</sup>, revealing few relationships between patient outcomes and the studied variables that are both statistically and clinically significant. However, important knowledge gaps remain. For example, in the psychiatric context, though GC is associated with important benefits to patients, including marked increases in empowerment<sup>12,13,15,16,17,18,19,20</sup>, no studies have explored the relationships between empowerment and patient/session-related variables such as sex, ethnicity, diagnosis, mode of referral or mode of GC. Furthermore, though studies have explored how different domains of the empowerment construct are more substantially impacted by the provision of GC in other areas<sup>9,21</sup> this has yet to be explored in the context of psychiatric GC.

Given that understanding factors that influence patient outcomes of GC at a more nuanced level may allow for prioritizing patients who might benefit most, or for adjustment of service delivery strategies to promote the best possible outcomes for difference types of patients, we set out to analyze - in an exploratory manner - the change in empowerment (as measured by the Genetic Counseling Outcome Scale (GCOS)<sup>22</sup>, from pre- to post-psychiatric GC in relation to twelve

1 patient/session variables. Additionally, we sought to examine – again in an exploratory manner -  
2 the effect of psychiatric GC on individual GCOS items and domains.

3

#### 4 **MATERIALS AND METHODS**

5 We conducted a retrospective chart review using data collected at a specialist psychiatric GC  
6 clinic in Vancouver, BC. This study was approved by the BC Children and Women’s Research  
7 Ethics Board (H15-02632).

8

#### 9 **Clinical Context**

10 Broadly, GC is designed to help people to “understand and adapt to the medical psychological  
11 and familial implications of genetic contributions to disease”<sup>23</sup>. In the psychiatric context more  
12 specifically, GC aims to help people understand how genes and environment contribute together  
13 to the development of illness, how to protect their mental health, and to address the guilt, fear  
14 blame shame and stigma that are often attached to people’s explanations for causes of these  
15 conditions. The content and structure of the psychiatric GC appointment is generally consistent  
16 between sessions (i.e. regardless of indication of referral, etiology of mental illness and  
17 strategies for protecting mental health are discussed in a personalized manner, and emotional  
18 issues related to explanations for cause of illness are explored), with specific numeric estimates  
19 of risk for recurrence provided according to patient wishes<sup>13</sup>. Details of the process and  
20 structure of the session, including common core elements (in the form of a manual) have been  
21 described in detail elsewhere<sup>24</sup>In qualitative explorations, patients have described their  
22 experience with psychiatric GC as “an empowering encounter”<sup>25</sup>, and quantitative studies show  
23 marked increases in patient empowerment<sup>12,13,15,16,17,18,19,20</sup> after psychiatric GC.

24

1 GC appointments are covered by the publicly funded healthcare system for all residents of  
2 British Columbia and are provided by two board certified genetic counselors. The clinic uses the  
3 GCOS as a clinical assessment tool; it is typically completed by all English-speaking patients at  
4 the beginning of their GC appointment (T1), and again at a standard follow-up telephone  
5 appointment (T2) approximately 1 – 2 months post GC. This service is available to anyone with a  
6 personal and/or family history of a psychiatric disorder, and all clinical data (including  
7 demographic information and GCOS scores from T1 and T2) is collected and managed using  
8 REDCap (Research Electronic Data Capture) tools hosted at BC Children’s and Women’s Hospital  
9 (Harris et al., 2009). REDCap is a secure, web-based application designed to support data  
10 capture for research purposes, providing 1) an intuitive interface for validated data entry; 2)  
11 audit trails for tracking data manipulation and export procedures; 3) automated export  
12 procedures for seamless data downloads to common statistical packages; and 4) procedures for  
13 importing data from external sources.

14

### 15 **Inclusion Criteria**

16 We extracted data from charts of index patients (family members were excluded) who attended  
17 their first appointment between February 1, 2012 and January 31, 2017, and who had completed  
18 the GCOS (defined as  $\leq 5$  missing items) at both timepoints.

19

### 20 **Genetic Counseling Outcome Scale**

21 The GCOS is a validated, clinical genetics-specific patient reported outcome measure that  
22 measures empowerment<sup>22</sup>. All 24 items are rated on a 7-point Likert scale (1= strongly disagree,  
23 7 = strongly agree). Scores range from 24 to 168 with higher scores indicating higher levels of  
24 empowerment. The scale comprises of seven sub-domains, or putative subscales: hope,  
25 powerlessness, emotional regulation, adaptation, referral clarity, support and family impact<sup>21</sup>.

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**Patient/Session Variables**

We assessed change in GCOS scores in relation to 12 variables about which data were available, specifically: age, sex, ethnicity, mode of referral (self or health care provider), mode of genetic counseling (in-person, telephone or telehealth), primary indication for referral, type of appointment (family or individual), GC student involvement (yes or no), presence of observers (e.g. visiting trainee/physicians)(yes or no), history of mental illness (personal or family), diagnosis, and baseline (T1) GCOS score.

**Analyses**

Descriptive statistics were applied to the demographic data, and GCOS total scores at T1 and T2 were calculated according to instrument-specific instructions. We described the mean pre- and post-GC scores, and mean change scores, for each GCOS item using data from the entire cohort. Additionally, we calculated the mean change score for each of the seven GCOS subdomains and conducted a paired sample *t* test to examine change in GCOS scores for each subdomain. We calculated Cronbach’s alpha for the scale as a whole, and for each of the subdomains at both timepoints.

Data were examined for continuity, independence of observations, homogeneity of variance and normality before conducting one-way between-group analyses of variance (ANOVAs) for all of the variables (except T1 GCOS score), using mean GCOS change scores (T2 – T1), with Tukey’s HSD post hoc tests where applicable. To assess the effect of baseline GCOS score on change in GCOS score, we used a linear regression. Given that this was an exploratory, hypothesis generating study, we used a significance threshold of  $p < 0.05$  for all tests. To provide context for the analyses, we conducted a paired sample *t* test to compare the change in GCOS scores from T1

1 to T2 for the cohort as a whole. We excluded any group of n=1 from analyses. Changes in GCOS  
2 scores were considered in light of a threshold change score of 10.3, that was determined in a  
3 previous study to correlate with the minimum clinically important difference (MCID)<sup>26</sup>. All  
4 analyses were performed using IBM SPSS Statistics 24 (IBM Corp., Armonk, N.Y., USA).

## 6 **RESULTS**

7 There were 307 charts in the clinical database that met the inclusion criteria. Demographic data  
8 for the cohort of patients included in the analyses is shown in Table 1.

9  
10 Cronbach's alpha for all 24 items of the GCOS was 0.827 at T1, and 0.845 at T2, thus showing  
11 good reliability. Overall, GCOS scores increased from T1 to T2 (T1: M=111.09, SD=17.68, T2:  
12 M=127.17, SD=18.20,  $p < 0.0005$ ,  $d = 1.10$ ), with mean increases in score being greater than the  
13 MCID<sup>23</sup>. Assumptions for continuity, independence of observations, homogeneity of variance and  
14 normality were met. At the individual level, GCOS scores increased for 86% of patients (see  
15 Table 1).

16  
17 For each item of the GCOS, the average T1 and T2 (pre- and post-GC respectively) scale scores,  
18 and average change score is described in Supplemental Table 1. For each subdomain of the  
19 GCOS, Cronbach's alpha, average pre-and post-GC scores, and average change scores is described  
20 in Table 2. The subdomains of the GCOS where genetic counseling had the greatest effect were  
21 powerlessness and emotional regulation (Table 2).

### 23 **Change in GCOS scores in relation to patient/session variables**

24 All data regarding patient and session related variables are provided in Table 3. There was no  
25 significant difference in GCOS change scores (T2 - T1) according to age ( $F(1, 305) = 3.357$ ,

1 p=0.068), sex (F (1, 304) = 2.158, p=0.143), ethnicity (F (4, 290) = 0.981, p=0.418), mode of  
2 referral (F (1, 305) = 1.266, p=0.261), type of appointment (F (1, 305) = 0.326, p=0.568), GC  
3 student involvement (F (1, 299) = 0.036, p=0.851), presence of observers (F (1, 167) = 0.061,  
4 p=0.805), or personal versus family history of mental illness (F (1, 305) = 1.233, p=0.268).

5

6 A significant relationship was found between GCOS change scores and mode of GC (F (2, 304) =  
7 3.067, p=0.048). The effect size was small ( $\eta^2 = 0.020$ ). Though changes in GCOS scores were  
8 numerically greater for the in-person counseling group compared to the telephone and  
9 telehealth groups (by 4.62 and 6.31 points respectively), the differences between groups were  
10 not statistically significant according to Tukey's post hoc test (p=0.111 and p=0.234  
11 respectively).

12

13 GCOS change scores were greater for patients who stated that recurrence risk was a primary  
14 indication for referral, compared to the individuals who did not indicate this referral indication  
15 (F (1, 305) = 11.624, p=0.001). The effect size was small to medium ( $\eta^2 = 0.037$ ). There were no  
16 significant differences in GCOS change scores when we compared the other primary indications  
17 individually (see Table 3).

18

19 Mean increases in GCOS scores were greater than MCID for all categorical variables, with the  
20 exception of those with a diagnosis of schizophrenia or schizoaffective disorder, but the number  
21 of individuals in these groups were too small to draw meaningful conclusions (see Table 3).

22

23 GCOS *change* scores were significantly related to *baseline* GCOS scores (F(1, 304)=43.8, p<0.000,  
24 R<sup>2</sup>=0.125), with a moderate effect size (R=0.353): specifically, we found a linear relationship  
25 between the two (See Figure 1), those with lower baseline GCOS scores had greater increases in

1 GCOS scores after genetic counseling. This model shows that a baseline GCOS score of  $\leq 131$   
2 predicts meeting or surpassing the MCID GCOS change score of 10.3<sup>26</sup>. Those with baseline GCOS  
3 scores higher than 131 are predicted to have increases in GCOS scores smaller than the MCID  
4 threshold. The demographic characteristics of those above and below this threshold baseline  
5 (T1) GCOS score are shown in Table 4; those who indicated a desire to discuss protective factors  
6 had higher baseline GCOS scores, and older individuals and those with a family history of mental  
7 illness rather than a personal history had lower baseline GCOS scores.

8  
9 The characteristics of those with GCOS change scores above and below the MCID threshold are  
10 shown in Supplemental Table 2.

11  
12 When we examined individuals who only had one diagnosis, there was no significant difference  
13 in GCOS change scores according to diagnosis ( $p = 0.283$ ), however the effect size was medium  
14 ( $\eta^2 = 0.056$ ). Additional data regarding pre-, post- and change scores by diagnosis for  
15 individuals with multiple diagnoses are shown in Supplemental Table 3.

## 16 **DISCUSSION**

17 This study represents the first examination of how these specific patient and session-related  
18 variables influence patient outcomes of psychiatric GC, and the first examination of the impact of  
19 psychiatric GC on individual items and subdomains of the GCOS. Overall, our data shows significant  
20 increases in levels of empowerment from before to after GC. There were also significant increases  
21 with large effect sizes in all of the sub-domains of empowerment except adaptation, where the  
22 effect was moderate and non-significant at a threshold of 0.05. In this regard, our study aligns with  
23 the findings of Ison et al, who also found significant improvement in post-GC scores in six of the  
24 seven subdomains, with adaptation being the subdomain that was not significant<sup>9</sup>. We found that  
25 the subdomains of empowerment on which psychiatric GC had the largest effect were

1 powerless and emotional regulation. Though we cannot directly compare data with the  
2 findings of Costal-Tirado et al (as effect sizes were not reported) emotional regulation was the one  
3 subdomain of empowerment in their study in which significant improvements were not observed  
4 from pre to post GC. This raises interesting questions about differences in GC outcomes between  
5 different patient populations, and/or different practice models of GC that are worthy of further  
6 exploration.

7

8 With regard to the influence of patient and session related variables on GC outcomes, we found that  
9 several of those we studied had no significant relationship with change in empowerment associated  
10 with receiving psychiatric GC. These included: age, sex, ethnicity, self-referral versus referral from a  
11 health care provider, individual versus family appointment, the involvement of students or  
12 observers, and personal versus family history of mental illness.

13

14 Though as far as we are aware, there is no previous data with which to compare it, our finding that  
15 the presence of observers or students did not influence GC outcomes will be reassuring for trainees,  
16 who may worry that they negatively impact the quality of a patient's care. Similarly, while family  
17 appointments can be more challenging for the genetic counselor to manage, anecdotally/from  
18 clinical experience, it may be assuring to providers to see that this complexity is not accompanied  
19 by a negative influence on patient outcomes.

20

21 For some of the other variables studied, data is available with which to compare our findings. For  
22 example, in other GC contexts (non-psychiatric) age has been found to influence outcomes of GC;  
23 specifically, older participants had smaller increases in knowledge after cancer GC<sup>4</sup>. However, one  
24 of the key differences is the outcome variable being assessed; knowledge in the cancer study, and

1 empowerment in the data reported here: variables that affect knowledge-based outcomes will not  
2 necessarily influence emotional or psychological outcomes.

3

4 Another area in which data exists with which to compare our findings related to self-, versus  
5 healthcare provider referrals. Some previous studies have suggested that individuals who self-refer  
6 are more likely to change health behaviors in response to the information they receive, compared  
7 to those who are referred by a health care provider in clinical genetics and healthcare services<sup>27,28</sup>.  
8 Relatedly, it has been suggested that those who self-refer may have higher levels of anxiety, or  
9 other psychosocial variables that may play a role in their response to treatment<sup>29,30</sup>. However, our  
10 data showed no difference in GCOS scores between those who self-referred and those who were  
11 referred by a healthcare provider.

12

13 A third area in which some data exists with which to compare our findings is mode of delivery; i.e.  
14 in person versus telephone/telehealth GC. In the current study, though the initial ANOVA suggested  
15 a marginally statistically significant difference in change in empowerment according to mode of  
16 delivery (with those who received GC in person having larger gains in empowerment) it did not  
17 survive Tukeys post hoc testing, perhaps due to discrepancies between group sizes - only 48  
18 patients received telephone GC, and 15 patients were seen through telehealth, compared to 244  
19 patients who attended the GC appointments in-person. Though we found no previous research that  
20 has explored the impact of mode of GC on empowerment specifically, *patient satisfaction* has been  
21 compared between those receiving cancer GC by telegenetics and those receiving in-person service.  
22 The study revealed no differences in this measure between groups, but identified the need for  
23 further randomized trials to compare longer-term psychosocial and behavioral outcomes<sup>10</sup>. It is  
24 possible that while acceptability of the two modes of delivery is comparable (as assessed by  
25 satisfaction), the effectiveness may differ (e.g. a possible small effect on empowerment). Adding

1 some degree of credence to this possibility, one study found telephone counseling to be non-  
2 inferior to in person counseling for a variety of measures including both satisfaction, and distress  
3 and decisional conflict, but rate of testing uptake differed between groups<sup>11</sup>.

4  
5 We identified a significantly greater increase in levels of empowerment for patients for whom  
6 understanding recurrence risk was a primary indication for referral, compared to patients with  
7 other primary indications ( $p=0.001$ ,  $\eta^2 = 0.037$ ). Data from Borle et al may provide some insight into  
8 this finding: specifically, in this study 27% of individuals who initially indicated that their primary  
9 motivation for GC was to receive recurrence risk estimates changed their minds after discussing  
10 etiology and protective factors. This subset of patients had significantly greater increases in  
11 empowerment after GC<sup>13</sup>. It is therefore possible that it is this subgroup of patients who are driving  
12 the significant association between indication for referral and change in empowerment after GC in  
13 the present study.

14  
15 While specific psychiatric diagnosis had no statistically significant impact on change in levels of  
16 empowerment associated with GC, the effect size was moderate ( $\eta^2 = 0.056$ ), suggesting the  
17 possibility that a larger sample size may have yielded a statistically significant association between  
18 greater increases in empowerment for those with bipolar disorder, anxiety, or depression as  
19 compared to individuals with schizophrenia. Some support for this idea comes from previous  
20 research, which demonstrated psychiatric GC reduces internalized stigma with a larger effect size  
21 for people with bipolar disorder and schizoaffective disorder as compared to those with  
22 schizophrenia<sup>18</sup>.

23  
24 Our finding that baseline (T1) GCOS scores predict the degree of change in empowerment after GC  
25 is to our knowledge – novel - and raises interesting possibilities for future research and clinical

1 practice, as described below. The finding that those who indicated a desire to discuss protective  
2 factors had higher baseline GCOS scores makes a degree of intuitive sense (these individuals are  
3 ready to talk about protecting their mental health for the future), but that older individuals and  
4 those with only a family history of mental illness (rather than a personal history) had lower  
5 baseline GCOS scores may need deeper exploration (e.g. qualitative study) to fully understand.

6

### 7 **Study limitations**

8 The majority of patients were female, European and had a personal history of mental illness. The  
9 psychiatric diagnoses were per patient report, and not confirmed via medical records.

10 Furthermore, GCOS scores were measured approximately one-month after GC, but longer-term  
11 effects were not assessed.

12

### 13 **Practice implications**

14 Our data demonstrate that patients with a range of different ethnicities, sexes and diagnoses  
15 benefit from psychiatric GC, and provide some initial insight into some of the patient and  
16 session-related variables that could influence GC outcomes. Although additional research (as  
17 described below) is required, our data may lay the foundations for considering the clinical use of  
18 baseline GCOS scores for the purpose of identifying patients to refer to GC, and/or triaging those  
19 already referred (i.e. providing first available appointments to those with the lowest scores).

20

### 21 **Future Research**

22 The growing body of data reporting on using the GCOS in different practice settings, opens the  
23 opportunity to consider comparing how different specialties and practice models within GC  
24 compare in terms of their impact on empowerment and its subdomains. Future work could build on  
25 the data we report here regarding baseline GCOS scores – specifically, studies could explore the

1 possibility of triaging those referred for GC based on this variable. For example, it could be  
2 worthwhile to explore the outcomes of prioritizing (e.g. providing first available appointments to)  
3 those with lower baseline (T1) GCOS scores, given our data suggesting that these individuals  
4 benefit most from GC (as evidenced by greater improvements in GCOS scores after GC). As well,  
5 studies exploring the use of tools like the GCOS to identify patients who would not typically be  
6 referred/eligible but who could benefit from GC may be warranted (e.g. those with family history of  
7 cancer who would not be prioritized for GC services using current risk-based triage models could  
8 perhaps be offered appointments if they had a GCOS score below a given threshold). Future  
9 research could also usefully explore the wide variety of additional factors not explored here (e.g.  
10 coping style, personality characteristics) that may influence patient outcomes.

11

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1 Figure 1

2

3 Title: Relationship between baseline GCOS score and change in GCOS after genetic counseling

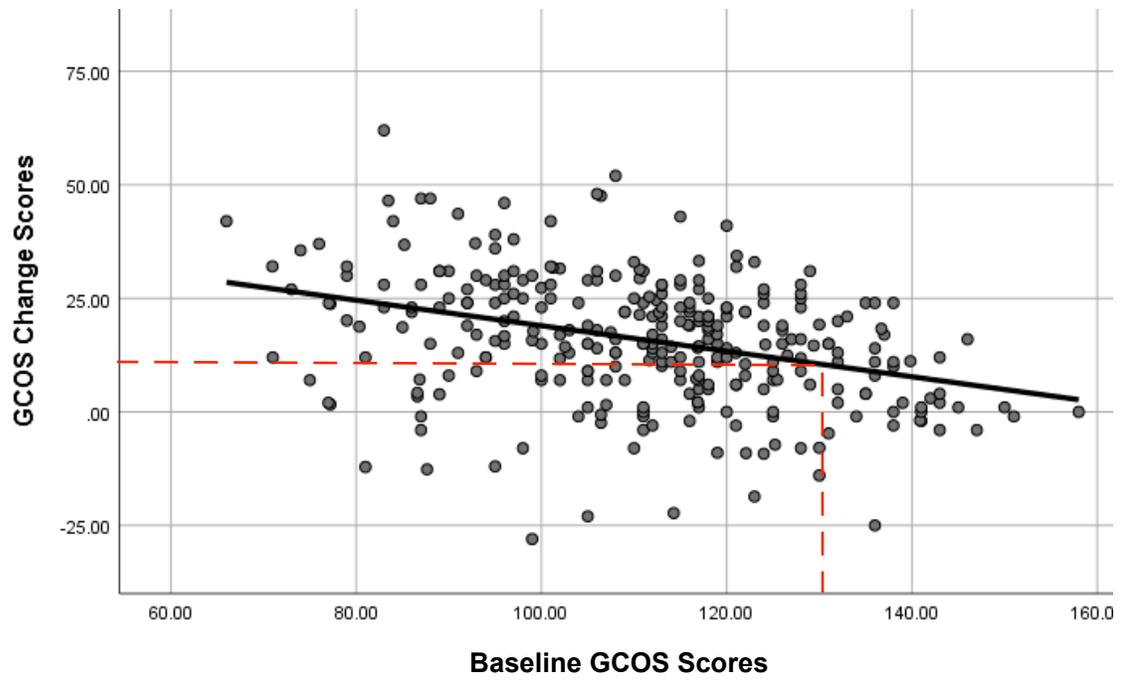
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6 Legend: The model shows a linear relationship between baseline GCOS score and change in GCOS  
7 after genetic counseling (predicted change in GCOS =  $47.068 + -0.281$  baseline GCOS).

8 The dotted lines indicate the MCID threshold (10.3) on the y axis, and the threshold baseline its  
9 corresponding baseline GCOS (131).

10



**Table 1** Demographic information

		<b>All patients N = 307</b>
<b>Age [mean(SD)]</b>		41.13 (12.09)
<b>Sex [n (%)]</b>		
	Male	50 (16.3)
	Female	256 (83.4)
	Other	1 (0.3)
<b>Ethnicity [n (%)]</b>		
	European	208 (67.8)
	Asian	46 (15.0)
	Aboriginal	1 (0.3)
	African	3 (1)
	Mixed	34 (11.1)
	Other	3 (1)
	Unknown	12 (3.9)
<b>GCOS T1 scores [mean(SD)]</b>		111.09 (17.68) <sup>a</sup>
<b>GCOS T2 scores [mean(SD)]</b>		127.17 (18.20) <sup>a</sup>
<b>Change scores (T2-T1) [mean(SD)]</b>		16.08 (14.63)
<b>Change score category [n(%), mean Change scores (SD)]</b>		
	Any Increase	265(86.3), 19.68(12.01)
	Increase ≥MCID <sup>b</sup>	209 (78.9), 23.5(10.6)
	Increase <MCID	56 (21.1), 5.44(2.84)
	Decrease	36(11.7), -7.74(7.49)
	No Change	6(2)

<sup>a</sup> p=<0.0005, Cohen's d=1.10, <sup>b</sup> Minimum Clinically Important Difference = 10.3

**Table 2** Subdomains of GCOS: T1 and T2, change (T2-T1), and Cronbach's alpha

	T1		T2		Change (SD) (T2-T1)	p	Cohen's <i>d</i>
	GCOS mean (SD)	Cronbach's Alpha	GCOS mean (SD)	Cronbach's Alpha			
<b>Hope</b>	5.32 (0.37)	0.748	5.76 (0.30)	0.775	0.44 (0.12)	0.005	1.19
<b>Support</b>	4.94 (0.59)	0.626	5.63 (0.50)	0.642	0.69 (0.14)	<0.0001	1.17
<b>Emotional Regulation</b>	3.29 (0.27)	0.575	3.96 (0.46)	0.667	0.67 (0.25)	0.045	2.48
<b>Family Impact</b>	4.02 (0.75)	0.482	5.15 (0.66)	0.520	1.13 (0.20)	0.010	1.5
<b>Powerlessness</b>	4.40 (0.37)	0.548	5.39 (0.05)	0.613	0.99 (0.38)	0.045	2.68
<b>Referral Clarity</b>	5.72 (0.54)	0.561	6.21 (0.51)	0.510	0.49 (0.05)	0.003	0.91
<b>Adaptation</b>	3.95 (0.98)	0.561	4.36 (1.05)	0.573	0.41 (0.23)	0.094	0.42

**Table 3** GCOS change scores for categorical variables (one-way between groups ANOVA)

		<b>N</b>	<b>T1 mean (SD)</b>	<b>T2 mean (SD)</b>	<b>Change (SD) (T2-T1)</b>	<b>ANOVA p value</b>	<b><math>\eta^2</math></b>
<b>Age</b>	13-40	160	113.12 (17.27)	130.66 (16.78)	17.54 (14.65)	0.068	0.011
	41-77	147	108.88 (17.90)	123.37 (18.97)	14.49 (14.49)		
<b>Sex</b>	Male	50	111.65 (17.15)	125.05 (19.50)	13.40 (17.26)	0.143	0.007
	Female	256	110.93 (17.82)	127.63 (17.97)	16.70 (13.97)		
<b>Ethnicity</b>	European	208	111.38 (17.42)	128.30 (17.69)	16.92 (14.60)	0.418	0.013
	Asian	46	113.48 (15.73)	126.93 (17.83)	13.45 (14.05)		
	African	3	95.29 (17.28)	111.29 (29.65)	16.00 (12.62)		
	Mixed	34	107.22 (22.22)	124.46 (17.18)	17.23 (13.56)		
	Other	4	109.17 (21.06)	116.37 (36.05)	7.20 (16.55)		
<b>Mode of referral</b>	Self-referral	114	109.62 (16.38)	124.48 (18.12)	14.86 (15.61)	0.261	0.004
	Health care provider	193	111.96 (18.38)	128.76 (18.11)	16.80 (14.01)		
<b>Mode of GC</b>	Telephone	48	111.08 (19.54)	123.57 (18.47)	12.49 (13.35)	0.048	0.020
	In-person	244	110.89 (17.22)	128.00 (18.13)	17.11 (14.84)		
	Telehealth	15	114.37 (19.64)	125.17 (18.15)	10.80 (12.90)		
<b>Primary Indication</b>	Recurrence risk	147	110.87 (17.56)	129.87 (16.04)	19.00 (13.83)	0.001	0.037
	Understanding causes	189	110.47 (17.80)	127.26 (18.58)	16.79 (14.72)	0.285	0.004
	Protective factors	81	114.76 (16.98)	129.69 (18.11)	14.93 (12.52)	0.411	0.002
	Had genetic testing	4	93.39 (18.03)	110.00 (23.76)	16.61 (17.17)	0.942	0.000
	Pregnancy related	17	121.74 (15.41)	134.50 (15.50)	12.76 (9.37)	0.337	0.003
	Other	6	98.00 (10.55)	122.50 (13.03)	24.50 (10.03)	0.155	0.007
	Unsure	20	117.19 (13.98)	127.49 (21.56)	10.30 (17.84)	0.067	0.011
<b>Type of appointment</b>	Family	89	110.72 (16.16)	127.54 (16.63)	16.83 (15.60)	0.568	0.001
	Individual	218	111.24 (18.29)	127.02 (18.84)	15.78 (14.24)		
<b>GC student involvement</b>	Yes	72	112.45 (17.23)	128.51 (20.62)	16.06 (13.45)	0.851	0.000
	No	229	110.59 (17.70)	127.03 (17.23)	16.44 (14.99)		
<b>Presence of observer</b>	Yes	38	116.31 (15.20)	132.45 (17.18)	16.13 (11.82)	0.805	0.000
	No	131	111.51 (17.92)	127.04 (18.11)	15.53 (13.75)		
<b>History of Mental Illness</b>	Personal History	259	111.16 (18.10)	127.64 (18.35)	16.48 (14.61)	0.268	0.000
	Family History Only	48	110.73 (18.10)	124.66 (18.35)	13.93 (14.72)		
<b>Personal History</b>	Schizophrenia	5	114.40 (19.58)	119.96 (14.83)	5.56 (7.36)	0.283	0.056
	Bipolar disorder	30	110.97 (20.79)	129.95 (19.53)	18.98 (19.01)		
	Schizoaffective	4	116.91 (17.60)	121.76 (28.58)	4.85 (20.52)		
	Anxiety	17	118.06 (12.49)	134.10 (10.61)	16.04 (13.51)		
	Depression	53	111.44 (17.38)	129.02 (18.37)	17.59 (13.04)		
	Other	3	110.67 (4.04)	130.67 (6.11)	20.00 (2.65)		

**Table 4** Demographics and patient characteristics for individuals above and below baseline GCOS threshold predicted to achieve a MCID (GCOS change score of 10.3).

	<b>T1 GCOS ≤ 131</b> N= 268	<b>T1 GCOS &gt;131</b> N= 39	<b>p</b>
<b>Age</b>			.025
13-40	134 (50.0)	27(69.2)	
41-77	134(50.0)	12(30.8)	
<b>Sex</b>			.891
Male	43 (16.1)	7 (17.9)	
Female	224 (83.8)	32 (82.1)	
<b>Ethnicity</b>			.883
European	181 (70.7)	27 (69.2)	
Asian	40 (15.6)	6 (15.4)	
Mixed	29 (11.3)	5 (12.8)	
African	3 (1.2)	0 (0.0)	
Other	3 (1.2)	1(2.6)	
<b>Mode of Referral</b>			.217
Self Referral	103 (38.4)	11 (28.2)	
Health Care Provider	165 (61.6)	28 (71.8)	
<b>Primary Indication<sup>1</sup></b>			.359
Recurrence risk	131 (48.9)	16 (41.0)	
Understanding causes	166 (61.9)	23 (59.0)	.722
Protective Factors	65 (24.3)	16 (41.0)	.026
Had genetic testing	4 (1.5)	0 (0.0)	1.0
Pregnancy related	13 (4.9)	4 (10.3)	.248
Other	6 (2.2)	0 (0.0)	1.0
Unsure	17 (6.3)	3 (7.7)	.728
<b>History of Mental Illness</b>			.016
Personal History	221 (82.5)	38 (97.4)	
Family History only	47 (17.5)	1 (2.6)	
<b>Personal History<sup>2</sup></b>			.495
Schizophrenia	4 (4.3)	1 (5.6)	
Bipolar disorder	24 (25.5)	6 (33.3)	.243
Schizoaffective	3 (3.2)	1 (5.6)	.421
Anxiety	14 (14.9)	3 (16.7)	.462
Depression	46 (48.9)	7 (38.9)	.904
Other	3 (3.2)	0	1.0

P values from Pearson Chi-Square, or Fisher's Exact test when appropriate

<sup>1</sup> Individuals can have more than one primary indication

<sup>2</sup>Personal history is only for those individuals with 1 diagnosis. If they have more than one diagnosis they are not included.