





The Post-COVID-19 Functional Status scale: a tool to measure functional status over time after COVID-19

Frederikus A. Klok ^{1,2}, Gudula J.A.M. Boon ¹, Stefano Barco ^{2,3}, Matthias Endres ^{4,5}, J.J. Miranda Geelhoed ⁶, Samuel Knauss ⁵, Spencer A. Rezek⁷, Martijn A. Spruit ^{8,9,10}, Jörg Vehreschild ^{11,12,13} and Bob Siegerink ^{4,14}

Affiliations: ¹Dept of Thrombosis and Haemostasis, Leiden University Medical Center, Leiden, The Netherlands. ²Center for Thrombosis and Haemostasis (CTH), University Medical Center of the Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz, Mainz, Germany. ³Clinic of Angiology, University Hospital Zurich, Zurich, Switzerland. ⁴Center for Stroke Research Berlin, Charité-Universitätsmedizin Berlin, Berlin, Germany. ⁵Dept of Pulmonology, Leiden Universitätsmedizin Berlin, Germany. ⁶Dept of Pulmonology, Leiden Universitätsmedizin Berlin, Germany. ⁶Dept of Pulmonology, Leiden University Medical Center, Leiden, The Netherlands. ⁷Institute of Therapies and Rehabilitation, Kantonsspital Winterthur, Winterthur, Switzerland. ⁸Dept of Research and Development, CIRO+, Horn, The Netherlands. ⁹Dept of Respiratory Medicine, Maastricht University Medical Center (MUMC+), NUTRIM School of Nutrition and Translational Research Institute, Faculty of Rehabilitation Sciences, Hasselt University, Diepenbeek, Belgium. ¹¹University of Cologne, Faculty of Medicine and University Hospital Cologne, Dept I for Internal Medicine, Cologne, Germany. ¹²German Centre for Infection Research (DZIF), partner site Bonn–Cologne, Cologne, Germany. ¹³Dept of Clinical Epidemiology/Oncology, Goethe University Frankfurt, Frankfurt am Main, Germany. ¹⁴Dept of Clinical Epidemiology, Leiden University Medical Center, Leiden, The Netherlands.

Correspondence: Frederikus A. Klok, Dept of Thrombosis and Haemostasis, Leiden University Medical Center, Albinusdreef 2, 2300RC, Leiden, The Netherlands. E-mail: f.a.klok@LUMC.nl

An ordinal tool is proposed to measure the full spectrum of functional outcomes following COVID-19. This "Post-COVID-19 Functional Status (PCFS) scale" can be used for tracking functional status over time as well as for research purposes. https://bit.ly/3cofGaa

Cite this article as: Klok FA, Boon GJAM, Barco S, *et al.* The Post-COVID-19 Functional Status scale: a tool to measure functional status over time after COVID-19. *Eur Respir J* 2020; 56: 2001494 [https://doi.org/10.1183/13993003.01494-2020].

This single-page version can be shared freely online.

To the Editor:

Since the outbreak of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, most attention has focused on containing transmission of the severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) and addressing the surge of critically ill patients in acute care settings. Indeed, as of 29 April 2020, over 3 million confirmed cases have been accounted for globally [1]. In the coming weeks and months, emphasis will gradually involve also post-acute care of COVID-19 survivors. It is anticipated that COVID-19 may have a major impact on physical, cognitive, mental and social health status, also in patients with mild disease presentation [2]. Previous outbreaks of coronaviruses have been associated with persistent pulmonary function impairment, muscle weakness, pain, fatigue, depression, anxiety, vocational problems, and reduced quality of life to various degrees [3–5].

Copyright ©ERS 2020.. This version is distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution Non-Commercial Licence 4.0.