

**Supplementary Table 1:** Demographic and patient characteristics

	France	Germany	Italy	Spain	UK	Overall
Screened patients (N) <i>male;female</i>	10299 6513;3786	14178 6844;7334	12780 6016;6764	6518 3570;2948	9011 4838;4173	52786 27781;25005
Patients who met inclusion criteria (N) <i>male;female</i>	165 48;117	156 38;118	153 45;108	156 44;112	180 58;122	810 233;577
Excluded patients (N) <sup>a</sup>	24	21	17	7	35	104
<b>Patients included in data analyses (N)</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>706</b>
Age (years) <sup>b</sup> <i>Mean (SD)</i>	56.38 (9.57)	56.70 (8.92)	52.09 (9.36)	51.95 (7.58)	60.43 (8.52)	55.51 (9.35) (range 40-99)
Gender <i>(% females)</i>	72	76	69	70	69	71
Chronic or acute disease <sup>c,d</sup> <i>(% patients)</i>	43↓	81↑	71	60	55	62
Ocular comorbidities (not DED) <sup>c</sup> <i>(% patients)</i>	57	57	62	53	39↓	53
Glasses <sup>c</sup> <i>(% patients)</i>	94	89	85	82	96↑	89
Previous eye surgery <i>(% patients)</i>	25	24	29	25	25	25
DED duration (months) <sup>b,e</sup> <i>Mean (SD)</i>	37.3 (67.4)	65.2 (73.7)	49.6 (51.6)	51.2 (64.3)	77.5 (88.7)	62.2 (70.9)

DED=Dry eye disease, SD=Standard deviation.

<sup>a</sup> Exclusions were due to Sjögren's syndrome without a DED diagnosis or incomplete survey data.

<sup>b</sup> ANOVA  $p < 0.01$ . Significant Tukey post-hoc multiple comparisons for age were: UK versus each country, France versus Spain and Italy, Germany versus Spain and Italy and for DED duration were: UK versus Italy and UK versus Spain.

<sup>c</sup>  $\chi^2 p < 0.001$ ; cells with significant adjusted standard residuals indicated by arrows, ↑ for values greater than and ↓ for values lower than the overall values

<sup>d</sup>  $\chi^2 [4, N=706]=50.92, p < 0.001$

<sup>e</sup> ANOVA,  $F [4,701]=3.968, p=0.003$