

Patient-Reported Symptom Outcomes Following DTG/3TC Use in a Test-and-Treat Setting: Results From the STAT Study

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Key Takeaways

- Rapid initiation of HIV-1 treatment with dolutegravir/lamivudine (DTG/3TC) has previously been demonstrated to be feasible in a test-and-treat model of care, with high rates of virologic suppression and few treatment modifications required
- Rapid improvement in patient-reported symptoms commonly associated with HIV were also observed among participants who initiated DTG/3TC in a test-and-treat setting

Introduction

- Rapid treatment of HIV-1 infection has been associated with improved linkage to and retention in care and reduced time to virologic suppression in people living with HIV (PLWH)¹
- DTG/3TC is indicated for treatment-naïve and treatment-experienced PLWH
- The STAT study (ClinicalTrials.gov, NCT03945981) is a phase IIb, multicenter, open-label, single-arm, pilot study conducted in the United States (US) to assess the feasibility, efficacy, and safety of using DTG/3TC as a first-line regimen in a test-and-treat model of care in newly diagnosed individuals in whom potential transmitted resistance and baseline (BL) hepatitis B virus (HBV) co-infection are unknown²
- In both the primary Week 24 and follow-up Week 48 analyses, high virologic suppression rates (HIV-1 RNA <50 c/mL) were observed, including in those with very high baseline viral load^{2,3}
- Here we present data on patient-reported symptom burden through Week 48

Methods

- STAT included treatment-naïve adult PLWH who initiated DTG/3TC ≤14 days after HIV-1 diagnosis before knowledge of screening/baseline laboratory results
- Modification to DTG/3TC therapy was permitted if baseline testing indicated resistance to DTG or 3TC, HBV co-infection, or creatinine clearance <30 mL/min/1.73 m²
- Symptom burden was assessed at BL and through Week 48 while under treatment with DTG/3TC using the HIV Symptom Distress Module (SDM) questionnaire, which measures the presence and symptom bother level of 20 specific symptoms associated with HIV or its treatment⁴
- The bothering level of each symptom ranges from 1 to 4, with 4 indicating the highest level of symptom bother; if the symptom is not present, the bothering level is 0

- The Symptom Count Score (SCS) is the unweighted sum of the number of symptoms that are present and ranges from 0 (ie, no symptom is present) to 20 (ie, all symptoms are present)
- The Overall Symptom Bother Score (SBS) is the unweighted sum of the bothering level for each symptom and ranges from 0 (no symptoms present) to 80 (all symptoms present at highest bothering level)
- Individual bothersome symptoms were defined as those symptoms with bothering levels ≥3
- Change from BL in SCS and SBS was calculated at Weeks 4, 8, 12, 24, 36, and 48
- The proportion of participants with bothersome symptoms was also assessed at each time point
- Analysis was conducted using a last-observation-carried-forward (LOCF) approach for participants who withdrew from study or switched treatment from DTG/3TC or missed assessments

Results

Participant Characteristics

- Overall, 131 participants were enrolled in the study across 16 sites in the US (Table 1)
- 2 participants had false-positive HIV tests at diagnosis and were enrolled, but subsequent HIV-1 RNA testing failed to reveal viral replication and they were withdrawn

Table 1. Selected Baseline Demographics and Characteristics

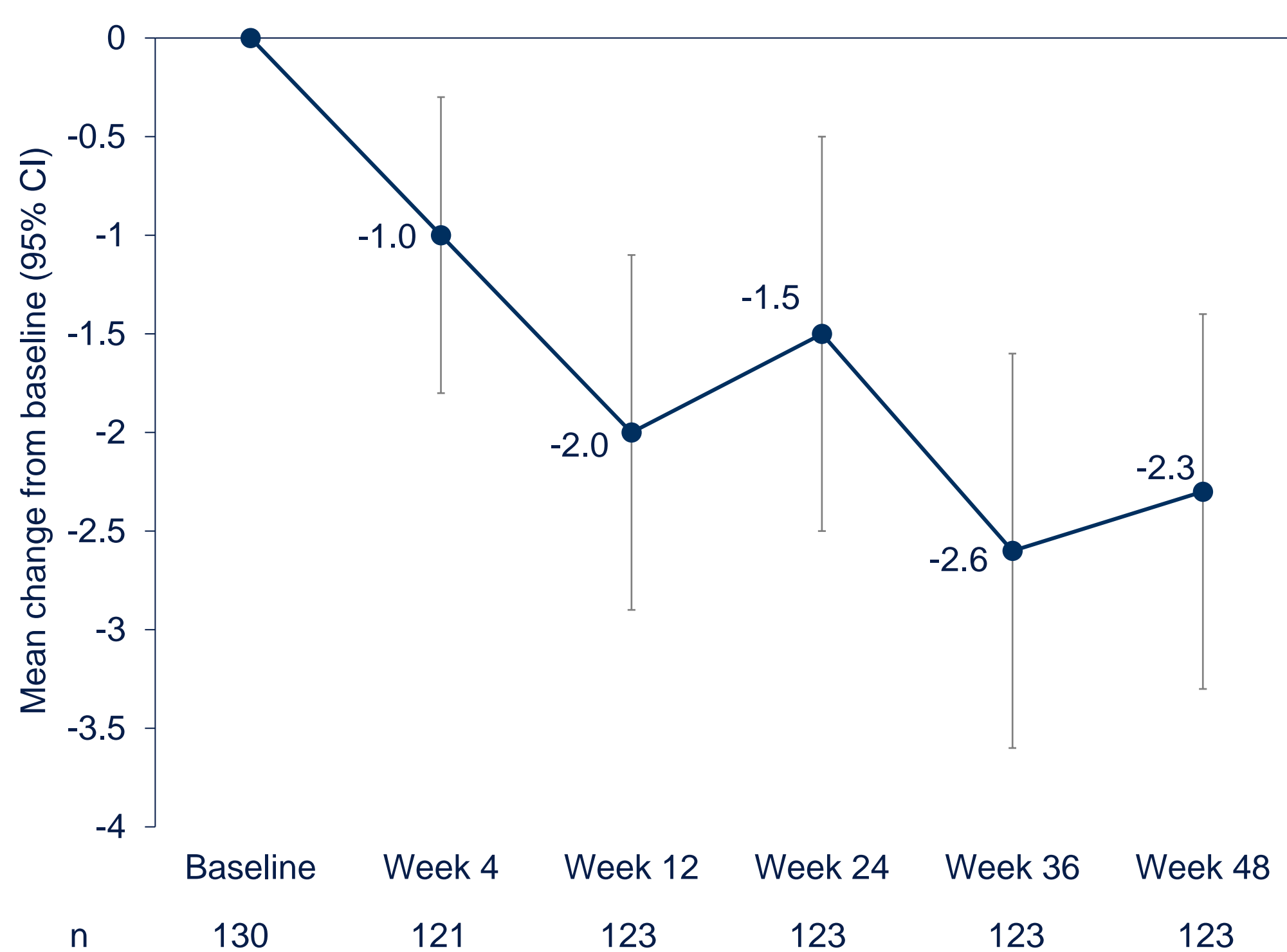
Characteristic	DTG/3TC (N=131)
Age, median (range), years	31 (18-63)
≥50 years, n (%)	20 (15)
Cisgender female, n (%)	10 (8)
Transgender female, n (%)	1 (<1)
Ethnicity, n (%)	
Hispanic/Latinx	38 (29)
Not Hispanic/Latinx	93 (71)
Race, n (%)	
Black/African American	61 (47)
White	65 (50)
Other races ^a	5 (4)
Weight, median (IQR), kg	74.2 (66.0-86.7)
BMI, median (IQR), kg/m ²	24.3 (21.1-27.2)
Time to enrollment since diagnosis, median (range), days	5 (0-15) ^b
HIV-1 RNA, median (range), c/mL, n (%) ^c	63,056 (<40 to 68,706,840) ^d
<100,000	79 (60)
100,000 to <500,000	32 (24)
500,000 to <1,000,000	9 (7)
≥1,000,000	10 (8)
CD4+ cell count, median (range), cells/mm ³	389 (<20 to 1466) ^e
<200, n (%)	37 (28)
HBV co-infection, n (%) ^{f,g}	7 (5)
M184V resistance mutation, n (%) ^f	1 (<1)
Enrolled on day of diagnosis, n (%)	34 (26)

^aIncludes American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, and multiple races. ^b1 participant joined the study past the 14-day window after diagnosis (15 days) due to error in entry of diagnosis date; participant remained on study. ^c1 (<1%) participant had missing plasma HIV-1 RNA results at BL. ^dLower limit of quantification is 40 c/mL. ^eLower limit of quantification is 20 cells/mm³. ^fBaseline HIV-1 resistance was identified at Week 4 and HBV co-infection was identified at Week 1 from samples taken at baseline. ^g2 participants with HBV co-infection but no evidence of ongoing HBV viral replication remained on DTG/3TC.

Symptom Count Score

- Participants reported a mean (SD) SCS of 6.2 (5.4) at BL, which decreased to 4.6 (5.4) and 3.9 (4.9) at Weeks 24 and 48, respectively, under treatment with DTG/3TC
- SCS decreased from BL at each time point assessed (Figure 1)

Figure 1. Change From Baseline in SDM Symptom Count Score



Overall Symptom Bother Score

- Participants reported a mean (SD) Overall SBS of 13.8 (14.7) at BL, which decreased to 8.5 (11.3) and 7.7 (11.1) at Weeks 24 and 48, respectively, under treatment with DTG/3TC
- Overall SBS decreased from BL at each time point assessed (Figure 2)

Bothersome Symptoms

- Of the 20 symptoms assessed, 19 were reported as bothersome at BL by ≥5% of participants (Figure 3)
- All improved by Week 4, except for problems having sex, which was improved by Week 8 (BL: 10%, Week 4: 11%, Week 8: 6%) and sustained thereafter
- The most frequently reported (≥15% of participants) bothersome symptoms at BL were difficulty sleeping (BL: 27%, Week 4: 16%, Week 48: 10%); fatigue (21%, 10%, 7%); feeling sad or depressed (19%, 15%, 11%); anxiousness (17%, 16%, 10%); and fever, chills, or sweats (15%, 5%, 3%)

Figure 3. Proportion of Participants Reporting Bothersome Symptoms (SDM Score ≥3) by Visit, LOCF

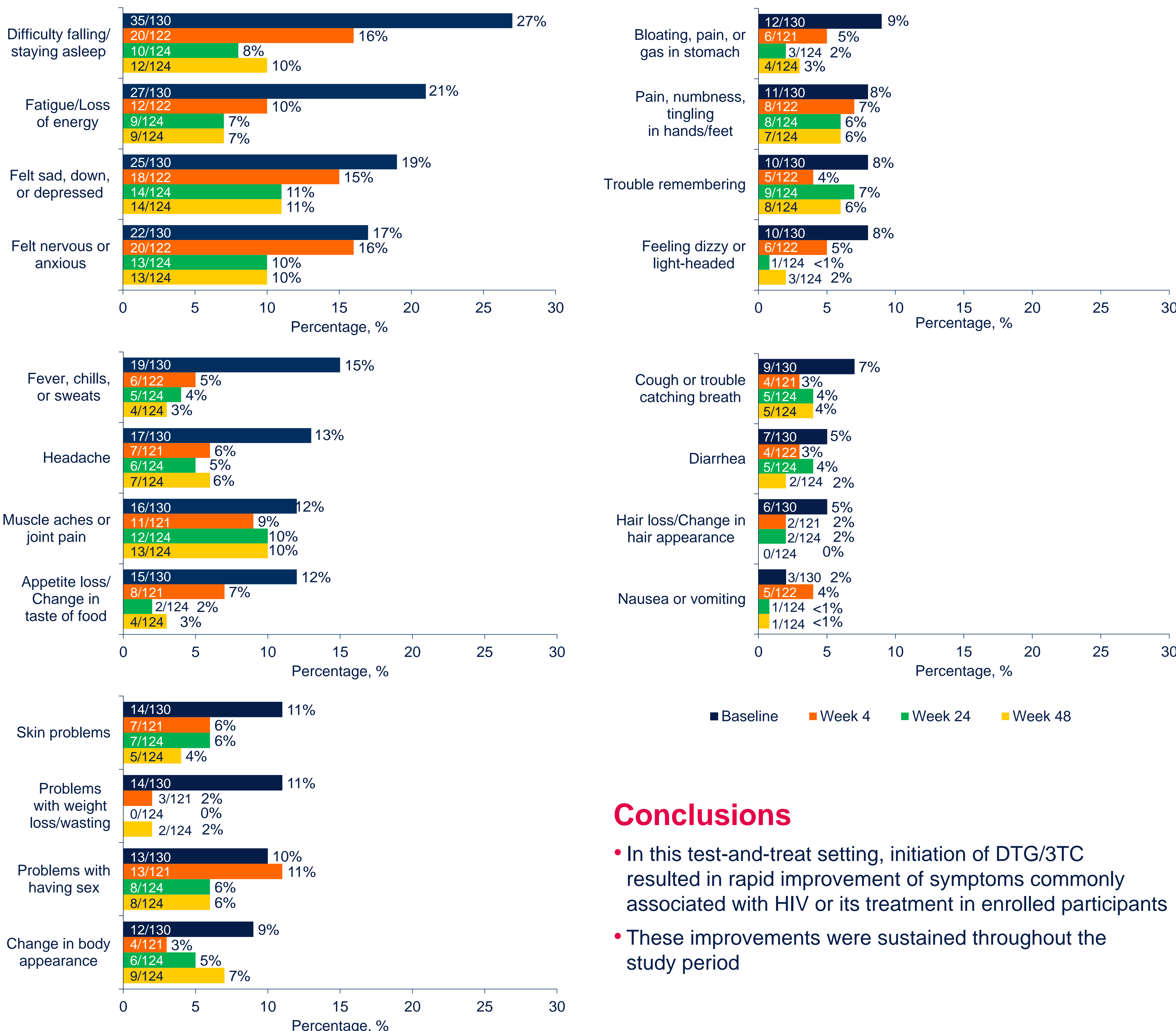
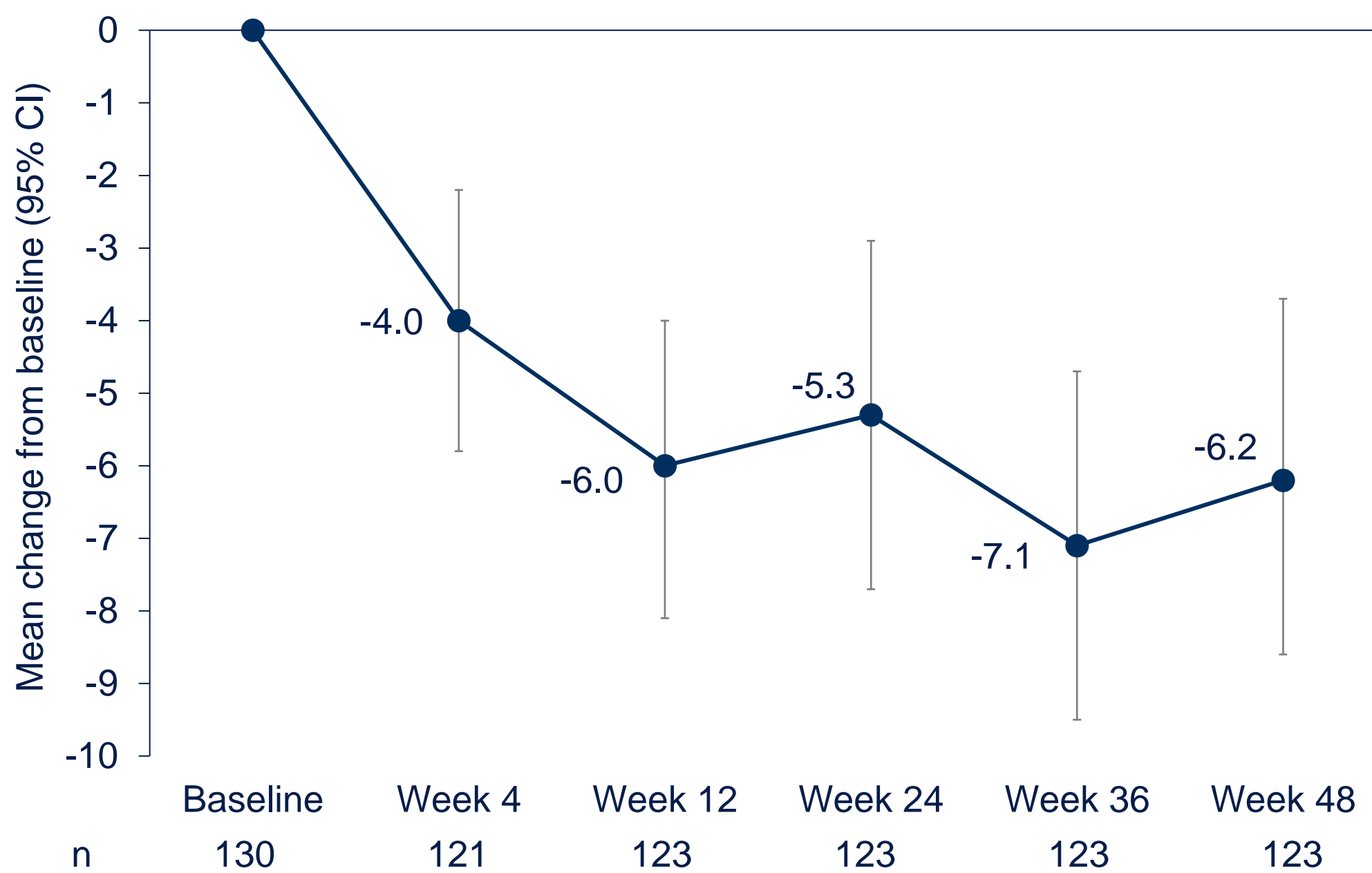


Figure 2. Change From Baseline in SDM Overall Symptom Bother Score



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