

**Online Supplementary Material**

van Bokhoven MA, Koch H, van der Weijden T, et al. Influence of watchful waiting on satisfaction and anxiety among patients seeking care for unexplained complaints. *Ann Fam Med.* 2009;7(2):112-120.  
<http://www.annfammed.org/cgi/content/full/7/2/112/DC1>

**Supplemental Table 1. Results of Bivariate Analysis of Patient Satisfaction With the Consultation**

<b>Variable</b>	<b><math>\chi^2</math> or OR (90% CI)</b>
Group	
Immediate test ordering	2.41 <sup>a</sup>
Watchful waiting	
Watchful waiting + QI	
Laboratory test results received by research group	
Yes	1.25 (0.92-1.70)
No	1.00 (ref)
<b>Physician and practice characteristics</b>	
Age of physician	
≤46 years	0.68 (0.49-0.92)
> 46 years	1.00 (ref)
Number of diagnostic tests available in practice	
Higher (above average)	1.59 (1.17-2.16)
Lower (below average)	1.00 (ref)
Percentage of consultations with laboratory test orders per week	
Higher (above median)	0.60 (0.44-0.82)
Lower (below median)	1.00 (ref)
Physician had special interest in musculoskeletal complaints	
Yes	0.47 (0.22-0.99)
No	1.00 (ref)
Physician had special interest in psychiatry, psychosomatics, or unexplained complaints	
Yes	1.62 (1.05-2.50)
No	1.00 (ref)
<b>Patient characteristics</b>	
Patient's highest level of education	
Higher (above average)	0.71 (0.52-0.96)
Lower (below average)	1.00 (ref)
Patient had anxiety after the consultation	
Yes (above average)	0.51 (0.37-0.70)
No (below average)	1.00 (ref)

*Continued*

<b>Supplemental Table 1. Results of Bivariate Analysis of Patient Satisfaction With the Consultation (continued)</b>	
<b>Variable (continued)</b>	<b><math>\chi^2</math> or OR (90% CI)</b>
Patient was generally satisfied with physician	
Yes (above average)	15.49 (10.18-23.56)
No (below average)	1.00 (ref)
<b>Complaint and consultation characteristics</b>	
Physician was certain there was no cause for alarm	
Yes (above median)	0.44 (0.26-0.76)
No (below median)	1.00 (ref)
Physician was satisfied with the consultation	
Yes (above average)	1.56 (1.13-2.16)
No (below average)	1.00 (ref)
Physician considered complaints bearable	
Yes	0.42 (0.23-0.76)
No	1.00 (ref)
In physician's estimation, patient considered complaints bearable	
Yes	0.64 (0.44-0.94)
No	1.00 (ref)
Patient considered complaints bearable	
Yes	0.80 (0.54-1.17)
No	1.00 (ref)
Patient felt taken seriously	
Yes (sufficiently or more)	15.75 (5.82-42.59)
No or unknown (insufficiently, somewhat, unknown)	1.00 (ref)
Physician discussed laboratory testing with patient, according to patient	
Yes	2.49 (1.79-3.47)
No or unknown	1.00 (ref)
Physician ordered blood tests, according to patient	
Yes	1.47 (1.07-2.02)
No or unknown	1.00 (ref)
Physician had sufficient time for the patient, according to patient	
Yes (good to excellent)	7.13 (3.86-13.86)
No (insufficient or reasonable)	1.00 (ref)
Patient wanted to be referred to a specialist	
Yes	0.60 (0.43-0.84)
No or did not care	1.00 (ref)
Patient knew seriousness of complaints after consultation, according to patient	
Yes	2.34 (1.67-3.29)
No	1.00 (ref)
CI = confidence interval; ref = reference group; OR = odds ratio; QI = quality improvement. Notes: Determinants significant at the $P \leq 1$ level are listed. The group and laboratory test results received variables have been added. <sup>a</sup> $\chi^2$ Comparisons between the 3 groups.	

**Supplemental Table 2. Results of Bivariate Analysis of Patient Anxiety After the Consultation**

Variable	$\chi^2$ or OR (90% CI)
Group	
Immediate test ordering	0.31 <sup>a</sup>
Watchful waiting	
Watchful waiting + QI	
Laboratory test results received by research group	
Yes	1.17 (0.86-1.59)
No	1.00 (ref)
<b>Physician and practice characteristics</b>	
Physician participated previously in continuing education on unexplained complaints	
Yes	1.42 (1.01-2.00)
No	1.00 (ref)
Physician had special interest in psychiatry, psychosomatics, or unexplained complaints	
Yes	1.66 (1.08-2.55)
No	1.00 (ref)
<b>Patient characteristics</b>	
Patient's highest level of education completed	
Higher (above average)	1.42 (1.04-1.94)
Lower (below average)	1.00 (ref)
Patient had anxiety before the consultation	
Yes (above average)	7.82 (5.51-11.10)
No (below average)	1.00 (ref)
Patient's quality of life (EuroQol thermometer)	
Higher (above average)	0.56 (0.41-0.77)
Lower (below average)	1.00 (ref)
Patient was generally satisfied with physician	
Yes (above average)	0.52 (0.38-0.72)
No (below average)	1.00 (ref)
<b>Complaint and consultation characteristics</b>	
Physician was certain that there was no cause for alarm	
Yes (above median)	1.79 (1.03-3.11)
No (below median)	1.00 (ref)
Patient was satisfied with the consultation	
Yes (above average)	0.51 (0.37-0.70)
No (below average)	1.00 (ref)
Duration of complaints	
< 1 week	0.03 <sup>a</sup>
1-4 weeks	
> 4 weeks	

Continued

**Supplemental Table 2. Results of Bivariate Analysis of Patient Anxiety After the Consultation (*continued*)**

Variable ( <i>continued</i> )	$\chi^2$ or OR (90% CI)
Patient had accompanying symptoms	
Yes	0.49 (0.35-0.69)
No	1.00 (ref)
Patient considered complaints bearable	
Yes	1.63 (1.18-2.26)
No or unknown	1.00 (ref)
Physician performed physical examination	
Yes	1.66 (1.14-2.42)
No or unknown	1.00 (ref)
Patient expected serious pathology	
Yes	2.57 (1.35-4.88)
No or unknown	1.00 (ref)
Patient expected blood test to be ordered	
Yes	1.55 (1.11-2.17)
No or unknown	1.00 (ref)
Patient expected other, additional testing	
Yes	1.65 (1.16-2.36)
No or unknown	1.00 (ref)
Patient expected referral	
Yes	1.52 (1.01-2.28)
No or unknown	1.00 (ref)
Physician had sufficient time for the patient, according to patient	
Yes (good to excellent)	0.49 (0.31-0.77)
No (insufficient or reasonable)	1.00 (ref)
Patient wanted to be referred to a specialist	
Yes	3.99 (2.80-5.69)
No or did not care	1.00 (ref)
Patient knew seriousness of complaints after the consultation, according to patient	
Yes	0.42 (0.29-0.60)
No	1.00 (ref)
CI = confidence interval; OR = odds ratio; QI = quality improvement; ref = reference group.	
Notes: Determinants significant at the $P \leq .1$ level are listed. The group and laboratory test results received variables have been added.	
<sup>a</sup> $\chi^2$ Comparisons between the 3 groups.	