

Frequently Asked Questions: modified Rodnan Skin Score (mRSS) Certification

- 1) *Is certification in the mRSS certification mandatory to conduct clinical trials?*
 - a. *In scleroderma trials that have mRSS as an outcome measure of skin involvement it is essential to have consistent and accurate skin scoring. Some pharmaceutical companies may make mRSS certification mandatory for their trials and therefore certification is highly recommended.*
- 2) *If I see a lot of scleroderma patients in my clinical practice and feel competent in this technique, do I still need certification?*
 - a. *Generally, pharmaceutical company trial sponsors require evidence of a minimum standard of competency and standardization to harmonize mRSS to conduct quality research. Certification provides this. Not all observational cohorts require mRSS certification.*
- 3) *What should I do if I completed a mRSS certification course through a pharmaceutical sponsored clinical trial but have not yet received my certificate?*
 - a. *If you receive certification in the context of a pharmaceutical sponsored clinical trial, please reach out directly to the pharmaceutical company. SCTC-WSF provide the mRSS certificates directly to the sponsor.*
- 4) *How long is mRSS certification valid?*
 - a. *Re-certification is generally recommended by the SCTC and WSF every 3 years, especially if the individual is not conducting MRSS on scleroderma patients regularly.*
- 5) *How do industry members best arrange a mRSS certification course?*
 - a. *This email domain will allow you to inquire about organizing a training course in the context of a clinical trial: TBD →Google Form both organizations*
- 6) *There are different techniques, such as averaging or maximizing the score, which is the correct way to perform mRSS?*
 - a. *While in clinical practice ensuring you are doing the mRSS in the same way every time is important, for clinical trials certification an averaging technique is generally used.*
- 7) *How can I access the list of certifications for mRSS?*
 - a. *The SCTC Database Committee maintains the list of MRSS certifications. This email domain will allow you to inquire about the mRSS certification list: TBD-->Google form (which clarifies you will not receive individual certified names and will be charged for reissuance of the certificate)*